

Wabash Plain Dealer

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TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 18, 2020

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Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.

Tomorrow's weather

28 | 15



Pulse of Wabash

Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web.support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

Red Cross schedules blood donation opportunity for Tuesday

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday at First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.

'Ask a Teenager Tech Basics' class scheduled

"Ask a Teenager" Tech Basics: 1 p.m. Tuesday at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. Sign up requested by calling 260-563-4475. Bring your electronic devices and your questions, assistance provided by Heartland Career Center Tech students.

Salamonie Preschool offers 'E is for Energy!'

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "E is for Energy!" from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19 at Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127. For more information on other UWIS programs, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upper-wabash.

Honeywell Foundation's annual art competition open

The Honeywell Foundation's Clark Gallery will be hosting its annual 92 County Art Show through Wednesday, Feb. 19. A public reception for this

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Grow Wabash County reaches \$1M goal

The campaign received support from over 40 different investors

Staff Report

Grow Wabash County announced Monday that the "Growth Starts Here" capital campaign has successfully reached its campaign goal of raising \$1 million,

according to a press release. The campaign was announced by campaign chair, Parker Beauchamp, during Grow Wabash County's Annual Dinner Celebration on Oct. 10, 2019 "and it was met with support and excitement from the community."

"Over the past several months, Grow Wabash County has been hard at work connecting with its

investors and community leaders to raise \$1 million for bold programs and initiatives to promote its five main pillars: entrepreneurship; workforce development and talent attraction; business development; livability; and investor services," according to the release. "Grow Wabash County has been working to advance these initiatives even before the

campaign was announced." Some of the other new projects Wabash County can look for in the coming months include: specialized skill training programs, increased support for the variety of entrepreneurial services offered through Grow Wabash County and the remediation of brownfield sites around the county. "The 'Growth Starts Here'

campaign received support from over 40 different investors who have committed to helping Grow Wabash County's game-changing plans make a profound impact on Wabash County," stated the release. "Grow Wabash County thanks all of its investors and campaign donors who have pledged their support for change and growth."



Provided photos

After a three-year absence, the international Irish dance phenomenon "Riverdance" is set to return Tuesday to the Honeywell Center.

A quarter-century strong

'Riverdance' returns Tuesday to Wabash for 25th-anniversary tour

By ROB BURGESS

Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

After a three-year absence, the international Irish dance phenomenon "Riverdance" is set to return Tuesday to the Honeywell Center.

The 2020 North American leg of their 25th Anniversary Tour, which includes more than 45 cities, will take the Ford Theater stage at 7:30 p.m. Doors are set to open at approximately 6:45 p.m.

"'Riverdance' 25th Anniversary Show is 'Riverdance' as people have never seen it before," stated Morgan Ellis, PR and marketing coordinator for the Honeywell Foundation. "A powerful and stirring reinvention of the beloved favorite celebrated the world over

its Grammy Award-winning score and the thrilling energy and passion of its Irish and International dance. Twenty-five years on, composer Bill Whelan has rerecorded his mesmerizing soundtrack while producer Moya Doherty and director John McColgan have completely reimaged the ground-breaking show with innovative and spectacular lighting, projection, stage, and costume designs. Guests are invited to become fully immersed in the extraordinary power and grace of its music and dance – beloved by all ages – and to fall in love with the magic of 'Riverdance' all over again."

"'Riverdance' began its journey as the interval act in the 1994 Eurovision Song Contest, produced for television by Doherty.

"This electrifying and innovative seven-minute dance piece was then developed into a full-length



The 2020 North American leg of their 25th Anniversary Tour, which includes more than 45 cities, will take the Ford Theater stage at 7:30 p.m. Doors are set to open at approximately 6:45 p.m.

stage show by Doherty, Whelan and McColgan," stated Ellis. "With its fusion of Irish and International music and dance, the show broke all box office records during its world premiere run in Dublin in early 1995. When the show transferred to London, the reaction was unprecedented. There followed a hugely successful tour starting in New York in March, 1996, where eight sold-out

shows at Radio City Music Hall heralded the start of two decades of touring by 'Riverdance' companies throughout North America. Since its inception, "Riverdance" has packed theatres throughout North America, Oceania, Asia, Europe, South Africa and South America. 'Riverdance' 25th Anniversary Show has been designed by lead designer

See RIVERDANCE, page A6

WCPL plans summer reading, 'Bash Con

Free booth space available for Friday, June 26 event

Staff Report

Along with summer reading, the Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL) is once again hosting 'Bash Con, a celebration of pop culture through art, cosplay, open discussion, board games and more, according to a press release.

'Bash Con is set to last from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, June 26 at 188 W. Hill St.

'Bash Con's theme for this year is "Imagine Your Story" and free booth space is available for artists and vendors. Amateur artists are encouraged and welcomed.

Each artist or vendor is guaranteed one table and two chairs. Setup will begin at 9 a.m. Tear down will begin around 2 p.m.

Each vendor and artist will be allowed entrance to the vendor and volunteer lounge for free beverages and snacks.

To register, visit <https://www.wabash.lib.in.us/bash-con>.

"Booth space is absolutely free, so feel free to share this with the other artists in your life who want to make some extra money this summer," stated the release.

For more information, call 260-563-2972 or visit www.wabash.lib.in.us.

Five Heartland Career Center students advance to SkillsUSA State Competition

Contest will be held from April 17 and 18 at the State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis

Staff Report

Hundreds of students from Northeast Indiana competed in career-based skill events through Indiana SkillsUSA on Saturday, Feb. 8, according to a press release.

SkillsUSA is a national Student Youth Organization that partners with students, teachers and industry to ensure America has a skilled work force, helping each student excel.

Heartland Career Center sent 24 students to Culinary Arts, Cosmetology and Criminal Justice competitions.

The individual competitions were hosted by Ivy Tech,



Provided photo

Heartland had five students advance to the SkillsUSA State Competition.

in Fort Wayne; Trine University, in Angola; and Fairfield High School, in Goshen.

Of the participants, Heartland had five students advance to the SkillsUSA State Competition:

■ Noah Cohee (Peru,

Criminal Justice)

■ Karhlie Heeter (Peru, Nails)

■ Vivian LeMaster (Wabash, Nails)

■ Trinnity Mitchell (Northfield, Criminal Justice)

■ Leah Travis (Oak Hill,

Hair)

■ Joining them at the state competition will be:

■ Alexis Burton (Wabash, Speech and State Officer)

■ Clara Snyder (Southwood, Pin Design)

■ Delaney Truman (Wabash, Nail Model)

■ Other participants in the Northeast Indiana SkillsUSA Regionals included:

■ Bailey Bruner (Huntington North, Culinary)

■ Paige Gaston (Huntington North, Commercial Baking)

■ Daven Schaefer (Huntington North, Culinary)

■ Abby Boyd (Manchester, Esthetics)

■ Alayna Miller (Manchester, Esthetics Model)

■ Noah Stafford (Manchester, Culinary)

■ Kendra Donaldson (North Miami, Esthetics)

■ McKennin Holland

(North Miami, Esthetics)

■ Ragin Stein (North Miami, Nails)

■ Makayla Waggoner (North Miami, Commercial Baking)

■ Anastasia Adkins (Peru, Esthetics)

■ Olivia Burks (Peru, Esthetics Model)

■ Tyler Killion (Peru, Criminal Justice)

■ Skylar Burnsworth (Southwood, Commercial Baking)

■ Paige Hyden (Southwood, Nail Model)

■ Tyler Proffitt (Southwood, Criminal Justice)

"Congratulations to each of these students for the hard work and dedication it takes to compete at a regional and state level," according to the release.

SkillsUSA State Competition will be held from April 17 and 18 at the State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

PULSE

From page A1

event will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19. For more information, contact Michele Hughes at mhughes@HoneywellFoundation.org or call the Honeywell Center Box Office at 260-563-1102.

Experience Mardi Gras, Wabash-style

From 12:30 to 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. Featuring Mentalist Chad Collyer, king cake, masks, beads, games and prizes. The 2020 Mardi Gras King and Queen will be announced.

Career Closet donations sought

Donations for the Career Closet will be collected through Friday, Feb. 21. Manchester University will accept gently used professional or business casual clothing and accessories. This event helps students who are not financially able to purchase professional clothing be able to dress appropriately when talking with employers and programs. Donations may be brought to Room 103 of the Chinworth Center on the North Manchester campus or Sarah Lauck at the Fort Wayne campus.

Manchester hosts Polar Plunge to aid Special Olympics

Manchester invites residents of Wabash and Kosciusko counties to Freezin' for a Reason on Saturday, Feb. 22 outside the Physical Education and Recreation Center (PERC). Team members can sign up as participants, which means they jump in the water, or "virtual plungers," who raise money but do not get wet. To register, visit https://www.firstgiving.com/event/soindiana/Polar-Plunge-North-Manchester. Events begin at 10 a.m. with sign-ups and welcome, followed by costume judging at noon. The water portion is 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., with the After-Splash Bash lunch at 1:30 p.m.

Manchester Civic Band looking for new members

A callout meeting has been planned for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26 at the Manchester High School band room through the double doors at the southeast corner of the building. Practices are held beginning at 7 p.m. and ending at either 8:30 or 9 p.m. Wednesdays in the Manchester High School Band Room.

MSD to host community presentation Feb. 27

MSD of Wabash County will be hosting a Community Presentation to share updates on their Strategic Plan at 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27 at Southwood Jr./Sr. High School, 564 Indiana 124.

Somerset Lions Club to hold euchre event

The Somerset Lions Club is set to host a euchre event Saturday, Feb. 29 in the Somerset Community Building. The entry fee is \$10. Registration is from 1 to 1:45 p.m. Play begins at 2 p.m. There will be cash prizes for Most Loners, Highest Score, Second Highest Score, 50-50 Drawing and two drawings for the entry fee. Soft drinks, hot dogs, cookies and chips will be available for a donation. Proceeds will support Somerset projects.

Manchester hosts Spartan Smash high school eSports tourney

High school teams across the Midwest are invited to the Spartan Smash Invitational, a first-time eSports competition, set for Saturday, Feb. 29, on the North Manchester campus of Manchester University. Registration will close at 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 28. The tournament bracket will be made available that Saturday morning. Competition is in Flory Auditorium at the Science Center. For more information and registration, visit https://smash.gg/tournament/spartan-smash-invitational.

Salamonie Senior Luncheon set for March 2

The monthly Salamonie Senior Luncheon will be held at noon on Monday, March 2, at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Anyone age 50 or

older is welcome to attend. UWIS interpretive naturalist Shelly Reed will present the "Civilian Conservation Corps of Indiana" through an engaging trivia presentation. The program begins with a carry-in meal at noon. Ham and beans will be provided. Guests should bring a side dish to share, a beverage and their table service. A \$1 donation will be accepted. Reservations may be made by calling 260-468-2127.

Salamonie Preschool offers 'S is for Spring' March 3

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "S is for Spring" 1 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3 at Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is \$2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127. For more information on other UWIS programs, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Employers invited to register for Manchester Career Fair

Employers are invited to meet students at the Manchester University career, internship and graduate school fair from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, at the upper level of the Jo Young Switzer Center on the North Manchester campus. Setup begins at 11:30 p.m. with lunch and informal networking. Each employer registered will receive a covered 6-foot table and two chairs. The cost to register is \$40 to \$50, depending on the type of employer. Fair sponsorship is also available for \$150.

For more information and to register, visit http://bit.ly/MJCareerFair2020. Employers with questions may email CareerDevelopment@manchester.edu.

Manchester University Theatre Society offers variety show

The Manchester University Theatre Society is putting on the Spring 2020 Variety Show at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5 in Cordier Auditorium. The show at the North Manchester campus is free and open to the public.

'Death by Chocolate' tickets on sale

The Wabash Area Community Theater's winter comedy "Death by Chocolate" will open at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7; and doors will open at noon and dinner is at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8 at the Charley Creek Inn. Tickets are on sale now at the Charley Creek Inn reception desk. For more information, call Bruce Rovelstad at 260- 330-0543 or Bev Vanderpool at 765-661-8206.

Salute to Ag Dinner to honor 2019 Farm Family of the Year

Grow Wabash County and the Salute to Ag committee have announced that Steve Flack and his family have been selected as the 2019 Farm Family of the Year. They will be recognized for their contributions to the Wabash County agriculture industry during Grow Wabash County's annual Salute to Ag Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 11 at the Heartland REMC, 350 Wedcor Ave. Tickets are \$20 each and sponsorship opportunities are available ranging from \$100 up to \$2,500. Registration may be completed by visiting growwabashcounty.com/events, by emailing info@grow-wabashcounty.com or calling 260-563-5258.

Komets game to celebrate Wabash County March 13

Wabash County will be the MVP during the third annual Wabash County Night at the Fort Wayne Komets game at 8:05 p.m. Friday, March 13 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. While supplies last, tickets can be bought for \$15 per ticket at https://groupmatics.events/event/Wabashcommunity3 or by emailing Mitch Meinholz at mitch@komets.com or by calling 260-482-6812.

Adult mental health First Aid training planned

Purdue Extension will offer Adult Mental Health First Aid training from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 17 at the Wabash REMC Community Room, 350 Wedcor Ave. The Mental Health First Aid program is open to any adult. For more information, visit www.extension.purdue.edu/mhfa or contact Mindy Mayes by email at mayes7@purdue.edu or by phone at 260-663-0661 ext. 1408.

St. Trolley's Day Tour on sale

Visit Wabash County has announced that tickets for the St. Trolley's Day Tour happening on March 14 are available for purchase. Tour times offered are 6, 6:30 or 7 p.m. and will last about two hours. The St. Trolley's Day Tour is \$25 per person and all-inclusive. To register for this tour, visit www.VisitWabashCounty.com and click on Tours/Trolley Rental. You may also stop in the Welcome Center at 221 S. Miami St., or call 260-563-7171. Tickets are \$25 per person and is due upon registration. You must be 21 or older to participate in this tour.

Wabash Kiwanis Club's Pancake Day returns in March

The Wabash Kiwanis Club will once again host its annual Pancake Day, which is the local service organization's largest annual fundraiser. The event will take place from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 14 at the Bruce Ingraham building at the Wabash County Fairgrounds, located just off of Gillen Avenue. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for those ages 13 years and older, and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for children 5 years and younger.

NMCH to host Smithsonian traveling exhibit

The North Manchester Center for History will be hosting the Smithsonian's traveling exhibit, "Crossroads: Change in Rural America" from March 21 to May 3.

Manchester invites high school students to submit compositions

The Manchester University Department of Music seeks high school composers for its first Composition Workshop and Reading Session on Wednesday, April 8. They are invited to submit original compositions to be performed and recorded by Manchester University faculty musicians. The deadline is March 23. Send submissions to Reed at tmreed@manchester.edu. Submissions should include a score (PDF or Finale file); contact information with name, phone number and mailing address; and name of high school currently attending. There is no fee to submit. Selected composers will be contacted with details about the evening event via email.

5-Day Weather Summary

Tuesday Mostly Cloudy 35 / 21	Wednesday Mostly Sunny 28 / 15	Thursday Mostly Sunny 23 / 17	Friday Sunny 30 / 20	Saturday Mostly Cloudy 39 / 32

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 6:25 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:37 a.m.

New 2/23	First 3/2	Full 3/9	Last 3/16

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies, high temperature of 35°, humidity of 80%. West northwest wind 8 to 15 mph. Expect mostly clear skies tonight, overnight low of 21°. Northwest wind 8 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 14°. Wednesday, skies will be mostly sunny, high of 28°, humidity of 57%.

Masks not very effective at preventing viruses

DEAR DOCTOR: I work in an open-plan office, and people aren't good about staying home when they're sick. Would wearing a surgical mask help keep me from catching someone's cold or flu?

DEAR READER: It's the height of our annual cold and flu

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors



season, so we understand your concern. Although the viruses responsible for respiratory illnesses are present year-round, they cause the largest numbers of illnesses in the winter months, when cold weather and short days keep people indoors. We spend a lot of time in close quarters, and in spaces that are often poorly ventilated. All of this makes it easier to transmit – and to become infected by – the viruses that cause influenza and the common cold.

Before discussing the pros and cons of a surgical mask, it's useful to understand how viruses spread. A virus is a parasite that's so tiny, it can only be viewed through an electron microscope. The influenza virus, for example, is 1,000 times smaller than a single grain of salt. It enters the body via the mucous membranes in the mouth, nose and eyes. Once inside a host, the virus injects its genetic material into a susceptible cell, hijacks that cell's machinery and forces it to churn out millions of copies of the virus. The immune system promptly attacks the invaders, which causes the array of symptoms that make the flu such a misery – fever, aches and pains, headache, exhaustion, coughing, sneezing and copious mucous production. With every cough and sneeze, a sick person sends out a virus-packed aerosol mist that can travel 6 or 8 feet, bits of which can linger in the air for several hours. When a healthy person inhales the expelled droplets or picks them up from a contaminated surface and then touches their mouth, nose or eyes, they can become infected with the virus.

Unfortunately, when it comes to using a mask to protect against viruses, the evidence is mixed. Some studies, which focused on health care workers in hospital situations, found that masks can be effective at preventing infection when worn properly and used consistently. But the weave is too loose to filter all viral materials, and masks don't always stay snug. Those same face masks may actually be more effective when worn by someone who is sick, since they block the spray of infectious matter from a cough or a sneeze. If it makes you feel better, go ahead and wear a mask. But be sure to also follow additional precautions. Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water, or use a hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your face since, as we mentioned, the mucous membranes of the nose,

mouth and eyes are entry points for the virus. If you're wearing a mask and then rub your eyes, you've defeated the purpose. If you haven't already done so, be sure to get a flu shot. Flu season typically peaks in January and February and lasts until the spring, so there's still time for the vaccine to be helpful. And if you do get sick, please seek medical care.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.



Wabash Plain Dealer

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Hours vary

■ **Call:** 260-563-2131

■ **Email:** news@wabashplaindealer.com

(Please call in advance of your visit.)

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Roxy 5 Showtimes for Friday, February 14- Thursday, February 20
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

Downhill (R) Fri: 6:30, 8:55 Sat: 1:55, 4:15, 6:30, 8:55 Sun: 1:55, 4:15, 6:30 Mon- Thurs: 6:30	Birds of Prey (R) Fri: 6:35, 9:25 Sat: 1:20, 3:55, 6:35, 9:25 Sun: 1:20, 3:55, 6:35 Mon- Thurs: 6:35	Dolittle (PG) Fri: 6:50, 9:15 Sat: 1:40, 4:25, 6:50, 9:15 Sun: 1:40, 4:25, 6:50 Mon- Thurs: 6:50
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Sonic the Hedgehog (PG) Fri: 6:20, 9:05 Sat: 1:10, 3:45, 6:20, 9:05 Sun: 1:10, 3:45, 6:20 Mon- Thurs: 6:20	1917 (R) Fri: 7:00, 9:35 Sat: 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:35 Sun: 1:30, 4:05, 7:00 Mon- Thurs: 7:00
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Obituaries

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www.grandstaff-hentgen.com

Dessie Sturgeon

Nov. 1, 1913 – Feb. 13, 2020

Dessie Sturgeon, 106, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020, at Autumn Ridge Rehabilitation Center, in Wabash. She was born Nov. 1, 1913, in Monroe, Indiana to David J. and Mary (Schwartz) Mazelin. Dessie was a 1931 graduate of Monroe High School in Adams County, Indiana. She first married Lawrence Wolpert in Decatur, Indiana on June 24, 1932; he died July 11, 1947. She then married Henry Thomas “Tom” Sturgeon in Winchester, Indiana on June 26, 1950; he died on July 13, 2011. Dessie was a member of Wabash Presbyterian Church and enjoyed crewel and shell working, and oil painting. After retiring she and her husband, spent 26 years at their winter home in Fort Myers, Florida. She had been a resident at Autumn Ridge Health and Rehabilitation Center since Aug. of 2011.



She is survived by three children, Ruth (Allen) Marshall of Lexington, Kentucky, Richard Wolpert of Houston, Texas, and Donald Wolpert of White Marsh, Virginia, 7 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, 8 great great-grandchildren, and her sister, Arveda Monnier of Indianapolis, Indiana. She was also preceded in death by one brother and two sisters. Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave., Wabash, with Rev. Jonathan Cornell officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call one hour prior to the service, Saturday at the funeral home. Preferred memorial is the Wabash Presbyterian Church. The memorial guest book for Dessie may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Kendall Jenner headlines London Fashion Week’s Burberry show

LONDON (AP) — Kendall Jenner and fellow super models unveiled Burberry’s new season designs at London Fashion Week on Monday, a collection that spanned everything from classic and ladylike to sexy, preppy and street-smart. That approach — showcasing designs tailored to diverse tastes — may now be particularly important to the luxury heritage fashion brand, which has recently reported a significant dent in its business in China, a key market, due to the virus outbreak. The signature Burberry check was ubiquitous. A three-piece women’s suit consisted of a cropped waistcoat, patchwork blazer, skin tight trousers and ankle boots, all in variations of the check. Elsewhere, there were nods to punk, such as deconstructed shirts in pink, red and lilac. Design chief Riccardo Tisci also presented some sexier, sassier looks, from high-shine black vinyl to slinky dresses that hugged

the body and featured strategic cut-outs. Jenner strutted in a checked bustier, layered under a semi-sheer white skirt and white boots. The beige trench coat — an item synonymous with the brand since founder Thomas Burberry first designed it in weather-proof gabardine fabric more than a century ago — featured, of course. Some came softly draped in a timeless feminine style; others were much more flamboyant, featuring furry arms and collars. One such head-turning outfit saw a shimmering bright lime catsuit paired with a matching coat with fluffy fur trim. The catwalk show, which drew celebrities including Cate Blanchett to its front row, is one of the glitziest highlights of London Fashion Week. Burberry will be hoping it goes some ways to boost business. The brand, which gets some 40 percent of its revenue from China, has had to shut 24 of 64 stores in China as a result of the virus outbreak.

Indiana State University to consider proposed vaping ban

TERRE HAUTE (AP) — Indiana State University’s trustees will consider a proposal to add electronic cigarettes to the western Indiana school’s ban on tobacco-related products. The Terre Haute campus is largely tobacco free under a policy that took effect in 2009, although the school has some designated outdoor smoking areas and it allows people to smoke in private vehicles. But a draft policy that would ban vaping will be presented to ISU’s trustees this week. A final policy recommendation will be submitted for May’s trustees’ meeting. If it’s adopted, the vaping ban would be implemented on

July 1, the Tribune-Star reported. The school’s trustees could suggest changes prior to adoption of any final policy. The current draft policy would prohibit electronic smoking devices, hookah, smoking and tobacco product use on property owned, operated or leased by the university. Their use would still be permitted in “the enclosed cabin” of privately owned vehicles, while designated campus smoking areas “will be gradually phased out in a manner determined by the administration,” the draft policy states. No timeline is included for that phaseout.

‘True Grit’ novelist Charles Portis dies on Monday at age 86

By HILLEL ITALIE
AP National Writer

NEW YORK — Novelist Charles Portis, a favorite among critics and writers for such shaggy dog stories as “Norwood” and “Gringos” and a bounty for Hollywood whose droll, bloody Western “True Grit” was a best-seller twice adapted into Oscar nominated films, died Monday at age 86. Portis, a former newspaper reporter who apparently learned enough to swear off talking to the media, had been suffering from Alzheimer’s in recent years. His brother, Jonathan Portis, told The Associated Press that he died in a hospice in Little Rock, Arkansas, his longtime residence.

Charles Portis was among the most admired authors to nearly vanish from public consciousness in his own lifetime. His fans included Tom Wolfe, Roy Blount Jr. and Larry McMurtry, and he was often compared to Mark Twain for his plainspoken humor and wry perspective. Portis saw the world from the ground up, from bars and shacks and trailer homes, and few spun wilder and funnier stories. In a Portis novel, usually set in the South and south of the border, characters embarked on journeys that took the most unpredictable detours. In “Norwood,” an ex-Marine from Texas heads East in a suspicious car to collect a suspicious debt, but winds up on a bus with a circus dwarf, a chicken and a girl he just met. “The Dog of the South” finds one Ray Midge driving from Arkansas to Honduras in search of his wife, his credit cards and his Ford Torino. In “Gringos,” an expatriate in Mexico with a taste for

order finds himself amid hippies, end-of-the-world cultists and disappearing friends. The public knew Portis best for “True Grit,” the quest of Arkansas teen Mattie Ross to avenge her father’s murder. The novel was serialized in the Saturday Evening Post in 1968 and was soon adapted (and softened) as a film showcase for John Wayne, who starred as Rooster Cogburn, the drunken, one-eyed marshal Mattie enlists to find the killer. The role brought Wayne his first Academy Award and was revived by the actor, much less successfully, in the sequel “Rooster Cogburn.” Rooster was so strong a character that a new generation of filmgoers and Oscar voters welcomed him back. In 2010, the Coen brothers worked up a less glossy, more faithful “True Grit,” featuring Jeff Bridges as Rooster and newcomer Hallie Steinfeld as Mattie. The film received 10 nominations, including best actor for Bridges, and brought new attention to Portis and his novel, which topped the trade paperback list of The New York Times. “No living Southern writer captures the spoken idioms of the South as artfully as Portis does,” Mississippi native Donna Tartt wrote in an afterword for a 2005 reissue of the novel. Portis was born in 1933 in El Dorado, Arkansas, one of four children of a school superintendent and a housewife whom Portis thought could have been a writer herself. As a kid, he loved comic books and movies and the stories he learned from his family. In a brief memoir written for The Atlantic Monthly, he recalled growing up in a community where the ratio was about “two Baptist

churches or one Methodist church per gin. It usually took about three gins to support a Presbyterian church, and a community with, say, four before you found enough tepid idolators to form an Episcopal congregation.” He was a natural raconteur who credited his stint in the Marines with giving him time to read. After leaving the service, he graduated from the University of Arkansas in 1958 with a degree in journalism and for the next few years was a newspaper man, starting as a night police reporter for the Memphis Commercial Appeal and finishing as London bureau chief for the New York Herald Tribune. Fellow Tribune staffers included Wolfe, who regarded Portis as “the original laconic cutup” and a fellow rebel against the boundaries of journalism, and Nora Ephron, who would remember her colleague as a sociable man with a reluctance to use a telephone. His interview subjects included Malcolm X and J.D. Salinger, whom Portis encountered on an airplane. He was also a first-hand observer of the civil rights movement. In 1963, he covered a riot and the police beating of black people in Birmingham, Alabama. Around the same time, he reported on a Ku Klux Klan meeting, a dullish occasion after which “the grand dragon of Mississippi disappeared grandly into the Southern night, his car engine hitting on about three cylinders.” Anxious to write novels, Portis left the paper in 1964 and from Arkansas completed “Norwood,” published two years later and adapted for a 1970 movie of the same name starring Glen Campbell and Joe Namath.

Portis placed his stories in familiar territory. He knew his way around Texas and Mexico and worked enough with women stringers from the Ozarks in Arkansas to draw upon them for Mattie’s narrative voice in “True Grit.” He eventually settled in Little Rock, where he reportedly spent years working on a novel that was never released. “Gringos,” his fifth and last novel, came out in 1991. Portis published short fiction in The Atlantic during the 1990s, but was mostly forgotten before admiring essays in Esquire and the New York Observer by Ron Rosenbaum were noticed by publishing director Tracy Carns of the Overlook Press, which reissued all of Portis’ novels. Some of his journalism, short stories and travel writings were published in the 2012 anthology “Escape Velocity.” In recent years, the author lived in open seclusion, a regular around Little Rock who drove a pickup truck, enjoyed an occasional beer and stepped away from reporters. He did turn up to collect The Oxford American’s Award for Lifetime Achievement in Southern Literature and was known to answer the occasional letter from a reader. But otherwise Portis seemed to honor Mattie’s code in “True Grit” for how to deal with journalists. “I do not fool around with newspapers,” Mattie says. “The paper editors are great ones for reaping where they have not sown. Another game they have is to send reporters out to talk to you and get your stories free. I know the young reporters are not paid well and I would not mind helping those boys out with their ‘scoops’ if they could ever get anything right.”

General Motors plans to pull out of Australia, New Zealand and Thailand

By TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT — General Motors decision to pull out of Australia, New Zealand and Thailand as part of a strategy to exit markets that don’t produce adequate returns on investments raised dismay Monday from officials concerned over job losses. The company said in a statement Sunday that it plans to wind down sales, engineering and design operations for its historic Holden brand in Australia and New Zealand in 2021. It also plans to sell its Rayong factory in Thailand to China’s Great Wall Motors and withdraw the Chevrolet brand from Thailand by the end of this year. “This is a very disappointing outcome,” said Karen Andrews, Australia’s minister for Industry, Science and Technology. She said it was unfortunate both because about 500 workers would lose their jobs, but also because “they only advised the government of this decision just before the announcement.” Dave Smith of the Australian Manufacturing Workers’ Union also expressed

chagrin. Workers at Holden had thought they’d “been through the worst of it, and that’s not the case,” Smith said. “For many of them their long-term workers have been very loyal to the company ... they’ve loved being part of the car industry, and now, it was such an iconic brand coming to an end; it’ll mean an end to their jobs.” GM has 828 employees in Australia and New Zealand and another 1,500 in Thailand, the company said. In Thailand, the decision to sell GM’s plant in Rayong, south of Bangkok, may well end up being good news for workers there. Great Wall Motors, a major maker of sport utility vehicles and pickups, said it intends to expand in Southeast Asia using the plant in Thailand as its base. “We will also promote the development of the local supply chain, research and development and related industries, plus contribute more to the exchequer of both the local Rayong and Thailand governments,” Great Wall’s vice president for global strategy, Liu Xiangshang, Thailand is still deter-

mined to be the “Detroit of Asia,” Krichanont Iyapunya, a spokesman for the Ministry of Industry said. He said plant closures and openings happen constantly. “The automobile industry must be adaptive,” Krichanont said. Liu, of Great Wall Motors, said the Thai expansion was part of the company’s global push, following the launch of a plant in Tula in Russia in 2019 and plans to acquire GM’s Talegaon plant in India. GM has struggled in Asia in the past year. Its International Operations, which include China, lost \$200 million last year, including \$100 million in the fourth quarter. It analyzed the business case for future production at the Rayong plant, but low utilization of its capacity and low sales volumes “made continued GM production at the site unsustainable,” the company said. GM’s CEO, Mary Barra, said the company wants to focus on markets where it can drive strong returns, scaling back operations in Australia, New Zealand and Thailand to selling niche specialty vehicles. GM will support its employees and

customers in the transition, she said. GM is making the same moves in Japan, Russia and Europe, where “we don’t have significant scale,” she said. “We are pursuing a niche presence by selling profitable high-end imported vehicles supported by a lean GM structure,” International Operations Senior Vice President Julian Blissett said in the statement. GM said it will honor all warranties in the markets, and it will continue to provide service and parts. Local operations also will handle recalls and any safety-related issues, the company said. The Detroit automaker expects to take \$1.1 billion worth of cash and noncash charges this year as it cuts operations in the three countries. GM has a long history in Australia with the Holden brand, where cars were designed and sold in the U.S. and other markets. The 2008 and 2009 Pontiac G8 muscle car, for instance, was designed as a Holden Commodore and built in Australia. But Holden’s market share, which was nearly 22 percent in 2002, fell to just over 4 percent last year.

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
<http://young.senate.gov/contact>

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
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202-224-4814
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To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website: www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainedealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



"My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you – I whom you have delivered."

Psalms 71:23

Stone case shows Trump learned all the wrong lessons from acquittal

After voting to acquit President Donald Trump in his impeachment trial, some Republican senators seemed to channel Maine's Susan Collins when she said, "I believe that the president has learned from this case."

He sure has. Trouble is, it's a lesson of license the unrepentant president has learned, not one of contrition or even caution.

Examples abound: Rhetorical attacks against Mitt Romney; career attacks on Lt. Cols. Alexander and Yevgeny Vindman; political attacks on the state of New York and the House Democrats who pressed the impeachment case.

And now comes an institutional attack on the Justice Department in the cascading case of Roger Stone, whose crimes are often purposely obscured by Trump's compliant congressional and media allies.

To review: Stone, a political operative with tight ties to Trump (and previously to President Richard Nixon, whose face is tattooed on Stone's back), was convicted on all seven counts of interfering in the congressional inquiry into Trump.

The charges could have brought a prison term of 50 years. But the professional prosecutors in the Justice

Department recommended seven to nine years, which was within the sentencing guidelines range.

That triggered Trump into a tweetstorm in support of Stone and in opposition to the prosecutors, judge and even jury forewoman in the case.

"This is a horrible and very unfair situation," Trump tweeted, adding that "the real crimes were on the other side."

Attorney General William Barr, who has often acted more like Trump's personal attorney, backed a lighter sentence, leading four career prosecutors to resign from the case, with one leaving the Justice Department entirely.

Barr claims that that he made his call independent of Trump's tweet. That seems unlikely given the close association between Barr and Trump, who tweeted: "Congratulations to Attorney General Bill Barr for taking charge of a case that was totally out of control and perhaps should not have even been brought." Trump added that the prosecutors "ought to apologize" to Stone, who at one point threatened the judge presiding over his case.

While congressional Republicans were silent or supportive, Democrats rightly were not. It's likely that Justice Department officials expressed

their displeasure at being undermined, too. Which may be one reason Barr told ABC News that Trump, in effect, should stop tweeting about Justice Department issues (a plea ignored by the president within hours when he tweeted that he had a "legal right" to intervene).

Barr also said that the tweets "make it impossible for me to do my job and to assure the courts and the prosecutors and the department that we're doing our work with integrity."

Time (and likely leaks) will tell if Barr was sincere in his pushback against Trump, who was uncharacteristically subdued in responding.

A test will come quickly after Friday's reports that Barr had assigned an outside prosecutor to review the case of Michael Flynn, Trump's first national security adviser who previously agreed to a plea deal on a charge of lying to investigators.

Politically chagrined, Collins has backtracked on her initial assessment of the impeachment lesson, calling her previous comments "aspirational."

Collins and her colleagues should themselves be aspirational and stop ceding Congress' necessary check on the executive branch.

This editorial was first published in The Star Tribune.



Democrats: Policy debates only matter after you win power

Like ideological purity as much as anyone. But not this year. Not this election. The Democrats contending to square off with President

Eugene Robinson



Trump face less an opportunity than an imperative. Nuanced policy differences among the various hopefuls could not be less important. Winning in November isn't everything; it's the only thing.

It is ridiculous to argue the merits of Medicare-for-all versus Medicare-for-all-who-want-it versus expanding the Affordable Care Act while Trump is taking a blowtorch to the norms that allow our political system to function and bind our society together. His nasty little "Friday Night Massacre" – vindictively ousting officials who testified at his impeachment hearings – was a mere taste of what we can expect in the coming months. He has gone full thug.

For Democrats, electability is the whole ballgame. Primary voters need to be as cold-eyed as possible in choosing a nominee who can not only beat Trump but also help generate blue-wave turnout that keeps control of the House and takes back the Senate. That's going to require compromise from someone: flipping Obama-to-Trump voters and stoking flagging Democratic enthusiasm may demand very different approaches and qualities. But whoever that compromise falls on most heavily must be prepared to make it. There is no choice but to take a deep breath and do what needs to be done.

The pro-Trump base is smaller than the anti-Trump base. If voters who believe this

president is a dangerous threat to the nation and the world turn out in November, our long national nightmare will be over. But if enough of the majority-tarian Resistance stays home – nursing grudges over policy positions that are, at best, aspirational, then Trump wins four more years.

I don't want that on my conscience under any circumstances. Do you?

Like many who think of themselves as progressive, I believe we should have a truly universal health care system along the lines of those in other wealthy nations. Expanding Medicare sounds like a promising path. But how, exactly, will that even begin to happen as long as Republicans, under Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, still control the Senate?

It won't. The debate about health care within the Democratic Party, at this point, is purely theoretical. The necessary first step is winning power. Only then does it make sense to dig in and argue about the details.

Inequality is a vital issue because it is so corrosive to American society. It is unacceptable that members of the top 1 percent are doing so well while middle-class incomes stagnate. It is unacceptable that a college education, for so many young people, means burying oneself in student loan debt that can take decades to dig out from under. Maybe it is time to think about a wealth tax that applies only to those at the very top. Maybe there are less dramatic adjustments to the tax code that can make a real difference.

But there won't be any attempt to deal with inequality in any meaningful way if Trump remains in power and Republicans keep the Senate. Trump and his Mar-a-Lago cronies

will keep the scale tipped decisively in their favor, and no one will be in a position to do anything about it.

Are you appalled by the xenophobia and racism of the Trump administration? I am, too. We should have a debate about whether crossing the border without papers should be considered a crime or not. We should have a debate about the best path to citizenship for the millions of undocumented migrants already living here. But meanwhile, we've seen thousands of children locked up in cages like animals. This kind of sadism won't end until Trump's presidency ends.

Do you care about climate change? All the Democratic candidates care, too. Trump calls it a hoax.

The differences among the Democratic candidates pale beside the difference between any of them and Trump. A Bernie Sanders presidency would not be the same as, say, a Michael Bloomberg presidency. But the socialist from Vermont, the billionaire from New York and any of the other Democrats would be incomparably better for the nation than four more years of this Trump madness.

And if you love the GOP, or once did, keep those constraints in mind. The Republican Party has been comprehensively remade in Trump's image. The only possible way forward is for conservative voters to send their own party down in flames this fall so that honorable people can rebuild it from the ashes. Given the constraints on any Democratic president, the sacrifice might not be as great as you think.

There is one question for Democratic primary voters: Who can win? Nothing else, at this point, really matters.

Eugene Robinson's email address is euGENERObinson@washpost.com.

The economy is neither as good nor bad as politicians claim

It is election season, so we face several more months of claims about the U.S. economy. Predictably, the economy is neither as good as the incumbents profess it to be, nor bad as those running to unseat them assert. The real truth is somewhere in between. Of course, each side will be armed with data, but politicians selectively forget to adjust for inflation or ignore seasonal adjustments that correct distortions in monthly or quarterly data. The economy is a complex affair, and each of us view it through our own lens. This is my assessment as a professional economist who wants better policies from both parties.

Michael Hicks



We are in the longest expansion in U.S. history, and employment growth continues to do surprisingly well. Every healthy adult who wishes for a job can find one. While wage gains have been modest, over the past year we have seen stronger growth, particularly among the lowest-paid workers. Nationally, the composition of job growth has been good. Only 2.5 percent of workers are involuntarily working part time. Job growth has been in traditional full-time employment. Even with recent softening of labor markets, particularly in manufacturing, we live in an enviable time to be a worker.

There are many other good aspects to our current economy. Much of what we don't measure well in our economy seems to be booming. Leisure is surely far less costly than in the past, and seemingly more productive. For most demographic groups, lifestyles are healthier and lifespans longer than even a decade ago. There is significant opportunity for human flourishing in what is unambiguously the wealthiest economy in history.

Household wealth is rising for families who've invested in homes, or saved, and thus invested money in an expanding economy. In this way, wealth is churned from Wall Street back to Main Street in a regular pattern. The ubiquity of retirement accounts and stock back pensions means that we are all capitalists now.

This good news does not mean the incumbent talking points are right, for two very important reasons. The first is that the Trump economy is no better than the Obama economy, and in the most meaningful ways modestly worse. The second is that the good economic news is not equally distributed across our Republic.

Comparing the last three years of the Obama Administration with the first three of the Trump Administration offers a good comparison. Annual GDP growth in the Trump years is at 2.52 percent, while it was 2.25 percent average for Mr. Obama. But, in terms of job growth, Mr. Obama's last three years saw a full 1.5 million extra jobs created – a roughly 20 percent better performance. While job growth was solid in both administrations, overall economic growth has been unusually tepid. What makes our current affairs worse than the 2014-2016 period is that the U.S. is now engaged in unprecedented fiscal stimulus, through budget deficits, monetary policy, and farm bailouts.

Mr. Trump's presidency has seen the deficit grow by \$2,575,949,000,000 over three years – a full trillion dollars more than the last three years of Mr. Obama's presidency. Both the bailouts and deficits are bigger than anything we observed in the Obama years. We live in a time of unprecedented fiscal and monetary stimulus, and yet eke out economic growth that is historically sluggish.

The bigger issue is that economic growth is unequally distributed across the nation. Large urban places enjoy fast growth, often twice the national rate of about 2.0 percent. In contrast, much of the country languishes. At the county level, the U.S. is in a surprising period of economic divergence. The unequal geographic distribution of economic growth makes it difficult to share a perspective about economic growth. Let me offer two examples.

In 1,000 urban counties, a young couple who saves up to purchase a home will see it build enormous wealth over a decade. In 2,000 counties outside of fast-growing cities, the same couple would see almost no real appreciation in their home values over a decade. Economic divergence doesn't just impact the affluent young couple, but also those at the opposite end of the economy. Imagine a young, single parent living with parents. In a rural community, childcare is absent, and a car is required to get to a job for an employer awash in high school dropouts. In a large city, there is typically transportation, much thicker labor markets and more abundant childcare options. Neither situation is ideal, but one has many more opportunities than the other.

In short, while there are many reasons to be optimistic about the American economy and tout its performance, there are also many deep weaknesses. In times past, candidates wouldn't agree on the economy, but most of their debate would be about policies to make it better. That is because there used to be a time when there were real disagreements about the future of economic policy.

Today, we have one political party that is in the midst of vigorous internal debate about the future of economic policy. The other party has eliminated internal debate and possesses no coherent economic policy. This means we risk several months of candidates arguing more about the past than the future. I view this as a form of intellectual and moral torture. My only solace is that this being a Republic, we citizens are only getting what we deserve.

Michael J. Hicks, PhD, is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Hicks earned doctoral and master's degrees in economics from the University of Tennessee and a bachelor's degree in economics from Virginia Military Institute. He has authored two books and more than 60 scholarly works focusing on state and local public policy, including tax and expenditure policy and the impact of Wal-Mart on local economies.

Business

Does my travel insurance cover coronavirus? Read the fine print

I used to rarely purchase travel insurance. Sometimes it was about the cost, but mostly it seemed unnecessary. I just took my chances. Until mega-storms decimated some of the sun-kissed Caribbean destinations I love. Civil unrest in

other parts of the globe has also left me considering what I would do if I wanted to cancel a trip.

And then came the outbreak of the coronavirus in China, where already more than 1,000 people have died. I'm so worried about people getting sick and losing their lives.

I think about those poor souls trapped off the coast of Japan on a cruise ship where at least 135 cases of the virus have been confirmed.

Although you don't want to think selfishly at times like this, recent extreme weather events and now the coronavirus might make you wonder how to protect a scheduled trip.

What if you've planned for years to take a trip to China? You've paid thousands of dollars – hopefully money saved – to take this epic journey, but now you're too scared to travel. Or, you can't take the vacation because of restrictions.

You might decide it's a good idea to get travel

insurance. But this isn't a purchase you should make without asking a lot of questions, starting with what's covered.

Travel insurance typically costs between 5 percent and 10 percent of the total cost of a trip, but can vary based on your age, amount of coverage requested, details of the trip itself and the number of people traveling, according to Erik Josowitz, an analyst at insuranceQuotes.

The gold-standard travel insurance policy will offer the option to "cancel for any reason" or "cancel anytime." This insurance could kick in, for example, if you're afraid to travel to any location because of the coronavirus. Such policies can cost as much as 50 percent more than a standard travel insurance policy.

"Since most travel insurance policies do not cover cancellation due to fear, travelers should purchase 'cancel any reason' riders to cover events at their destination that may cause them to cancel their plans," Josowitz said.

However, there could be a catch even to the "cancel anytime" coverage. Your policy might have exclusions for known or foreseeable events and epidemics.

"What people want to do is look at the details of the policy they are considering," Josowitz said in an interview.

Allianz Travel recently issued an alert about the virus, asserting the exact date that the public was alerted to the dangers of this health crisis.

"For customers booking trips to China and other impacted areas, the coronavirus became a known event on Jan. 22," the company said. "Travel protection plans generally exclude losses caused by events that were known or foreseeable at the time the plan is purchased."

So, if you purchased a standard travel insurance policy prior to Jan. 22, you might still have coverage for the loss of a trip booked to China or other impacted areas, Allianz said.

Allianz has received about 200 calls and 1,000 claims related to the coronavirus. Most of the claims are for trip cancellations, said Daniel Durazo, director of marketing and communications for Allianz.

Here's something I didn't know: "Many travel insurance plans exclude coverage for losses caused directly or indirectly by epidemics," Durazo said.

The company pointed out that, as of Feb. 3, both the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognized the coronavirus as an epidemic.

"There are policies that limit themselves to covering health conditions that were not known, not preexisting, at the time the travel was booked," Josowitz said.

That's the thing with travel insurance. You've got to pay attention to policy exceptions, even for "cancel anytime" insurance.

When it comes to medical

expenses, check whether your policy's health coverage is primary or secondary.

A primary policy is designed to be the first payer for any incurred medical costs. A policy that is secondary would pick up costs not covered by a traveler's personal health insurance company. "This may mean the traveler has to pay deductibles and copays out of their own pocket," Josowitz said.

Also, be aware that policies will also have limits – a maximum the company will pay – and many will also have deductibles or other limitations.

Whether you're worried about the coronavirus or a weather disaster, be sure to double-check the exclusions and limits of a policy prior to purchasing.

Where I would have simply dismissed travel insurance with no thought at all in the past, I'm giving it more consideration with each trip, as should you. Your dream destination may too easily become a nightmare.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichelleSingletary). Comments and questions are welcome, but due to the volume of mail, personal responses may not be possible. Please also note comments or questions may be used in a future column, with the writer's name, unless a specific request to do otherwise is indicated.

2020 Environmental Grant Program accepting nominations

Indiana American Water allowing applications through March 31

Staff Report

Indiana American Water, a subsidiary of American Water, the largest publicly-traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company, announced applications are now being for its 2020 Environmental Grant Program, according to a press release.

Indiana American Water's Environmental Grant Program offers funds for innovative, community-based environmental projects that improve, restore or protect the watersheds, surface water and/or groundwater supplies through partnerships. Last year, Indiana American Water funded several watershed projects across the state. In 2020, the company will be awarding several grants for a combined total of more than \$10,000.

To qualify, proposed projects must:

- Address a source water or watershed protection need in the community.
- Be completed between

May 1 and Nov. 30.

- Be a new or innovative program for the community, or serve as a significant expansion to an existing program.

- Be carried out by a formal or informal partnership between two or more organizations.

- Provide evidence of sustainability (continued existence after the grant monies are utilized), and

- Be located within one of Indiana American Water's service areas across the state.

Projects will be judged based on criteria that include clarity of project goals and projected impact, the strength of collaboration with other community and/or municipal organizations, and evidence that the project will provide sustainable environmental results after Indiana American Water's funding ends.

Applications must be postmarked by March 31 and mailed to Indiana American Water, 153 N. Emerson Avenue, Greenwood, IN 46143, ATTN: Joe Loughmiller. Award recipients will be notified by April 30.

For more information, visit <https://amwater.com/inaw/news-community/environmental-grant-program>.

MutualFirst Financial declares cash dividend

Company will pay cash dividend of 20 cents per share for first quarter of 2020

Staff Report

MutualFirst Financial, the holding company of MutualBank, has announced the company will pay a cash dividend of 20 cents per share for the first quarter of 2020, according to a press release.

The dividend will be payable on March 27 to shareholders of record on March 13.

MutualFirst Financial is the parent company of MutualBank, an Indiana-based financial institution since 1889.

MutualBank has 39 full-ser-

vice retail financial centers throughout Indiana. MutualBank has two offices located in Fishers and Crawfordsville specializing in wealth management and trust services and a loan origination office in New Buffalo, Michigan.

MutualBank also operates a wholly-owned subsidiary named Summit Mortgage which operates out of Fort Wayne, Indiana. MutualBank provides a full range of financial services including commercial and business banking, personal banking, wealth management, trust services, investments and internet banking services.

The company's stock is traded on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "MFSE."

For more information, visit www.bankwithmutual.com.

Do just one thing

The bulk bins at your local supermarket or health food store are already a great way to go green during your grocery shopping, as they reduce the waste and costs associated with packaging and marketing. But did you know you can make bulk bin shopping even greener? By bringing your own

reusable food storage containers, you can eliminate the need for plastic bags or boxes at the store. The key is to find an employee who can weigh your containers before you fill them, so you are paying only for the bulk item. And always make sure your containers are very clean when bringing them to the store.

Jeff Bezos commits \$10 billion to fight climate change

By JOSEPH PISANI
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK — Amazon founder Jeff Bezos said Monday that he plans to spend \$10 billion of his own fortune to help fight climate change.

Bezos, the world's richest man, said in an Instagram post that he'll start giving grants this summer to scientists, activists and nonprofits working to protect Earth.

"I want to work alongside others both to amplify known ways and to explore new ways of fighting the devastating impact of climate change," Bezos said in the post.

Amazon, the company Bezos runs, has an enormous carbon footprint. Last year, Amazon officials said the company would work to have 100 percent of its energy use come from solar panels and other renewable energy by 2030.

The online retailer relies on fossil fuels to power planes, trucks and vans in order to

ship billions of items all around the world. Amazon workers in its Seattle headquarters have been vocal in criticizing some of the company's practices, pushing it to do more to combat climate change.

Bezos said in the post Monday that he will call his new initiative the Bezos Earth Fund. An Amazon spokesman confirmed that Bezos will be using his own money for the fund.

Despite being among the richest people in the world, Bezos only recently became active in donating money to causes as other billionaires like Bill Gates and Warren Buffett have done. In 2018, Bezos started another fund, committing \$2 billion of his own money to open preschools in low-income neighborhoods and give money to nonprofits that help homeless families.

Bezos, who founded Amazon 25 years ago, has a stake in the company that is worth more than \$100 billion.

Tech-starved government seeks industry's best, brightest

By JAMES ANDERSON
Associated Press

Denver — In this post-inequality era of divisive-neap and deadlock in the nation's capital, Uncle Sam has a message for top U.S. technologists:

I Still Want You. A Washington-based nerd strike force called the U.S. Digital Service is seeking private-sector coders, programmers and software engineers to make government user-friendly for a tech-savvy U.S. public.

Launched after the 2013 crash of the Obama administration's Healthcare.gov website, the USDS recruits the nation's top tech talent for Peace Corps-style tours

of duty to tackle the government's most pressing information management and online security problems.

It has an increasingly rare distinction as an initiative supported by both the Obama and Trump administrations, according to current and former USDS staff and White House officials.

"We've been enthusiastic about USDS since Day One," said Mathew Lira, a special assistant to Trump in the White House Office of American Innovation.

Early USDS projects – fixing the public-facing website of Obama's Affordable Care Act, helping green card holders apply for renewals electronically – might not be top Trump administra-

tion priorities today.

But many projects continue: Enabling electronic access to health records for millions of Medicare patients and their doctors; building a robust and navigable Veterans Administration website; securing civilian agency and Defense Department websites.

"The government is incredibly short of engineers, designers and product managers," said USDS Administrator Matt Cutts. "You can apply for a mortgage on your phone, but government services are another matter."

The service also has spawned a growing civic tech movement assisting state and local governments as well as nonprofits.

Trump administration funding for USDS has been relatively constant. Operating out of the Office of Management and Budget, the service has grown to 180 people. Its \$13 million budget has held since 2019.

In his new \$4.8 trillion budget plan for the 2021 fiscal year that starts Oct. 1, Trump seeks to hold down deficits by cutting domestic programs, and the USDS isn't spared at a proposed \$7 million. But officials say it's likely that the service, lauded for its work by Trump senior adviser and son-in-law Jared Kushner, won't see any funding cuts as the budget process moves forward.

RIVERDANCE

From page A1

Peter Canning, featuring set by Alan Farquharson, lighting by Andrew Voller, and video by Cosmo AV along with costumes by Joan Bergin and sound by Michael O’Gorman.”

Ticket prices include \$50, \$60 and limited premium seating at \$100. Tickets for this performance are available for purchase via HoneywellCenter.org/”Riverdance” or by calling the Honeywell Foundation Box Office at 260-563-1102.

In a recent phone interview from his home in Ireland, Whelan took the time to discuss his early career, how “Riverdance” took off and why the show has endured for all these years.

Career beginnings
Whelan said he when began his career in the early 1970s, he was a session musician. He then moved into arranging and orchestrating.

“You don’t immediately make a lot of money from writing music to support your family,” he said. “So I then became more and more involved in producing.”

That led to working with U2 on the band’s 1983 album, “War.” Around the same time, he also collaborated with several other popular Irish artists including Van Morrison and Kate Bush.

“That was in the early U2 career,” he said. “They were on fire at that stage. There was a lot of excitement in the air.”

Whelan said before that, homegrown acts that found international success usually didn’t return. U2 helped reverse that trend.

“People started to think about coming back to Ireland,” he said. “It was an exciting time to be in Ireland.”

Whelan said it wasn’t until the late 1980s that he began to blossom as a songwriter.

“I’ve been writing and songs and pieces since I was able to reach the piano,



Provided photo

“Riverdance” began its journey as the interval act in the 1994 Eurovision Song Contest, produced for television by Doherty.

so I’ve always wanted to do that,” he said. “But it was difficult to find an avenue that would support the kind of writing that I wanted to do. And then eventually I had done a bit of film writing and a bit of theater work.”

Whelan said the turning point was when he became composer-in-residence at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin. There he wrote music for 15 W. B. Yates plays during the Yates Festival. At the same time, he composed three large orchestral works: “The Seville Suite,” “The Spirit of Mayo” and “Riverdance.”

Turning point
Everything changed for Whelan after one seven-minute performance of Riverdance featuring Michael Flatley and Jean Butler during the 1994 Eurovision Song Contest.

“It’s a major piece of television,” he said. “For Americans, I guess the nearest thing would be ‘America’s Got Talent.’”

Whelan said that even though he was heavily involved in traditional Irish music for years, he couldn’t have predicted how popular “Riverdance” would become right away.

“When we left Ireland and played in the UK, I thought we would just play to the

Irish audience in the UK and come home,” he said, laughing. “That proved to be a wrong idea. It ran in London for two years in a very big theater.”

Whelan said they took the show from continent to continent in places as diverse as New Zealand and China.

“I played Irish music in all kinds of venues in my early years,” he said. “Apart from a few artists like The Chieftains that have made it abroad, you certainly couldn’t export it or didn’t think you could export it. For me, I just knew that there was something about Irish music that really would open the door for me as a composer.”

Lasting impact

Whelan said many of the players who are set to take the stage in Wabash weren’t even born when “Riverdance” first exploded onto the scene.

“That’s both a sobering and a gratifying thing for me,” he said. “It makes me think, ‘OK, well, I’m not 23 anymore.’ But equally, it is very gratifying to see that the young music and dance talent that has sprung up since ‘Riverdance’ started.”

Whelan said one change he has seen since the show first started has been the diversity of influences tra-

ditional Irish music players are now able to display.

“When I was starting, a traditional musician would really only play traditional Irish music but now you find them taking an interest in eastern European music and Spanish music and general pop music,” he said. “It’s great to see these young people come up.”

Whelan said when Flatley and Butler were first introduced to international audiences, they were the absolute cream of the crop in terms of Irish dancers. Now, performers of comparable talent and renown are much more common.

“Up until ‘Riverdance,’ nobody ever presented Irish dance as a piece of theater,” he said. “It was always done as just something you did in school, and then you did it in competition and then you competed against other dancers. That was it. What ‘Riverdance’ did was it turned that around and turned the dancers around to face the audience and do something that was theatrically interesting and entertaining. There wasn’t any such thing as a professional Irish dancer when I started. Now there are many.”

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Indiana judge apologizes for fight that led to his shooting

JEFFERSONVILLE (AP) — A southern Indiana judge is apologizing for a fight outside an Indianapolis fast-food restaurant during which he and another judge were shot and seriously wounded.

Clark County Circuit Judge Andrew Adams pleaded guilty last year to one misdemeanor battery charge in a plea agreement with Marion County prosecutors, who dismissed two felony counts he had faced. Adams received a one-year suspended sentence.

He and fellow Clark County judge Brad Jacobs were shot and seriously wounded during a May 1, 2019, fight that followed a night of bar-hopping as they were in Indianapolis for a judicial conference.

The fight and shooting also led to charges against two other men, including Brandon Kaiser, who’s accused of shooting the

two judges. His trial on 14 charges is scheduled to start March 16.

Adams, Jacobs and Crawford Circuit Judge Sabrina Bell were temporarily suspended as part of disciplinary action taken by the Indiana Supreme Court in response to the judicial misconduct they were found to have committed. All three have since been reinstated.

Adams said he was limited in what he could say publicly before his reinstatement, but that he now wanted to apologize for the incident, the News and Tribune reported.

“I’m sincerely sorry it happened,” he said. “The incidents of May 1 by no means define me as a person, definitely not a judge.”

“Everybody says ‘Would you change anything?’ Obviously I would have went back to the room earlier if I could change anything,” Adams said.

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11-18



Norse fall on road to Bluffton

After taking an early lead against Bluffton, Northfield fell behind and couldn't recover, dropping a 48-38 contest on the road to Bluffton on Friday.

Clayton Tomlinson finished with 15 points, seven steals, five assists and four rebounds.

Wabash earns weekend sweep

Wabash's boys' basketball team picked up a pair of wins on the weekend. On Friday, the Apaches outlasted a feisty Rochester side on the road, winning 45-44. Elijah Vander Velden led the way with 10 points.

On Saturday, Wabash followed it up with a 49-45 win at home over Warsaw. Trenton Daughtry had 22 points while Vander Velden had 12 points and eight rebounds.

Colts add 2 more assistants to coaching staff

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indianapolis Colts coach Frank Reich has added Matt Raich and Jerrod Johnson to his coaching staff.

Raich will serve as special defensive assistant-assistant defensive line coach while Johnson becomes the team's offensive quality control coach.

Raich has spent most of the past two decades in the NFL, making stops at Pittsburgh, Arizona, Detroit and Cincinnati. He most recently served as co-defensive coordinator and linebackers with the NFL's St. Louis Battle-Hawks.

Johnson worked with the Colts last season as part of the league's Bill Walsh Diversity Coaching Fellowship initiative. He also worked with San Francisco's quarterbacks in 2017 as part of the same initiative.

Johnson played with Dallas, Baltimore, Chicago, Seattle, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia in the NFL as well as the Montreal Alouettes of the CFL and the Sacramento Mountain Lions of the United Football League. He coached at St. Thomas High School in Houston from 2015-18.

Ratings for NBA All-Star Game rise by 8 percent

NEW YORK (AP) — Ratings for the NBA All-Star Game were up 8 percent over last year, with an average of 7.3 million viewers watching Sunday night's broadcast on TNT.

About 8 million viewers were tuned in for the end of the game, where LeBron James' team defeated Giannis Antetokounmpo's team 157-155 in the first target-score format in All-Star history. The fourth quarter was untimed and was broadcast commercial-free.

Submit your news

The *Plain Dealer* is accepting all news. Items may be:

- Emailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.
- Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.

Organizations or individuals emailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The *Plain Dealer* reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.

Trio of wrestlers advance to state meet

By **JACOB RUDE**
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

Three Wabash County wrestlers qualified for the state finals at Saturday's semi-state meet held at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne. Manchester's Dylan Stroud highlighted the day

by winning the semi-state title at 126 pounds. Wabash's pairing of Ethan Higgins at 120 pounds and Grant Warmuth at 220 pounds also earned state berths with each placing fourth on the day.

Stroud's day started with a pinfall win over Landon Roy of West Noble in the

first period. In the ticket round with a win needed for state final qualification, Stroud shut out Belmont's Dominic Litchfield for a 7-0 decision win.

With his spot in the final secured, Stroud never slowed as he knocked off Payne Blackburn of Delta with an 8-3 decision win. In

the final, Stroud remained resilient and again kept his opponent off the scoreboard, earning an 8-0 decision over Landon Bertsch of Bluffton. Higgins started his day with a majority decision win over Mikey Kallamani of Jimtown, 14-3. In the

See **WRESTLERS**, page B2



Jacob Rude / Plain Dealer

Northfield's Kearston Stout knocks down a baseline jumper during the fourth quarter of Saturday's regional final against Blue River Valley.

Norse upset in regional final

By **JACOB RUDE**
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

SHARPSVILLE – On the brink of a regional title repeat on Saturday night, the Northfield girls' basketball team faltered for the first time in weeks.

Riding high into the regional final after routing Daleville in the morning match-up, the Norse were set for a rematch of last year's regional championship game against Blue River Valley. But unlike last season, Northfield could never find its footing on the night with turnovers proving lethal as the Vikings earned the upset win, 39-34.

Northfield was put on the back foot from the opening tip as Viking center

Ally Madden scored on the opening possession and was responsible for three of the first four Blue River baskets as they took an 8-0 lead.

Addi Baker got the Norse on the board midway through the quarter as Northfield eased its way into the game. After a layup from Kearston Stout and a three-pointer from Emma Hoover, Northfield finally took the lead on a pair of Stout free throws to carry a 9-8 lead into the second period.

The lead briefly touched four points after a Kenzie Baer three-pointer, but Blue River Valley scored the next five points to grab a 15-14 lead.

Northfield, though, looked to have finally grabbed

ahold of the game to close the first half. Baker tied the game with a free throw then scored back-to-back baskets, the latter a fastbreak layup after a steal from Hoover.

Stout gave the Norse its biggest lead of the night, turning another Hoover steal into a three-point play, finishing a fastbreak layup through a foul to put her side up 22-15.

Madden knocked down a free throw to close the first half, but the Vikings made quick work to tie the game to start the second half. Four different Vikings scored as part of an 8-2 run to open the third and tie the game at 24-24.

Baer restored Northfield's lead but the Vikings scored

the next five points to take a three-point lead. More importantly, though, Blue River Valley picked up the fourth fouls on both Stout and Emily Pennington, putting the Norse in foul trouble.

Big baskets from Fayth Leming and Addy Rosen, the former a three-pointer, helped Northfield pull within a point heading into the final frame. Northfield grabbed back the lead and momentum to start the fourth on a three-pointer from Hoover to move ahead 34-32.

But those would be the final points of the night for Northfield. Madden tied the game with a layup, the final

See **NORSE**, page B2

Southwood drops weekend doubleheader

By **JACOB RUDE**
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

In recent seasons, Southwood and Maconaquah's boys' basketball teams have met in thrilling, high-stakes contests with plenty of drama and excitement. Friday's meeting between the two sides was the rare, extreme exception.

The visiting Braves hit nine first-half threes, six of those coming from sophomore Brayden Betzner, as part of an onslaught that saw guests rout Southwood on the night, 77-42.

"You're not going to have a lot of games like this, but we hardly ever have a game like this at home," Southwood head coach John Burrus said. "The kids were trying. We couldn't get things to drop and we couldn't get on a run. But I think you also have to give credit to Maconaquah. They're the kind of team that's a nightmare for us. They're not real big but they can all pass, dribble and shoot. We've had our struggles with Maconaquah but tonight was a special one because they came out early and really made it tough for us."

Betzner opened the game with back-to-back three-pointers, setting an early tone for the night. While Southwood kept the game close early at 11-4 after a Carson Rich basket, Maconaquah's ensuing 11-0 run blew the game wide open.

Hayden Maiben accounted for the first four points, Betzner connected on his fourth three of the first and Maiben and Nolan Kelly scored the final four points as Maconaquah's lead grew to 22-4.

Southwood split the quarter break with baskets on either side but Maconaquah again countered with an 11-0 run that again featured Betzner three-pointers. Graham Stoll's layup was sandwiched by long-range efforts from Betzner and Maiben capped off the run with his own three.

"If we played this game again, it'd be different," Burrus said. "But when it got going the way it did, it just kind of snowballed. You have to give Maconaquah, Coach Maiben and their guys a lot of credit. They were ready for this game."

The Knights began to get a footing in the game offensive by scoring seven of the next 10 points. But those buckets came at a price as a more focused attempt to attack the offensive glass by the Knights led to run-outs and fastbreak layups from the Braves as the lead again reached 25 points at 40-15 following a Cole Borden layup.

"We were trying hard to get guys on the offense glass," Burrus said. "It's a little flip there. We're attacking the offensive glass...and that opened up more transition for them. I just thought they beat us to the ball, they beat us to the rebound. They did a lot of things that were beyond the three-point shooting. But when you give up 11 threes, that set the tone for the game."

While Southwood's offense came alive in the second half, the Braves offense never slowed as they followed up their 40-points first half with a 37-point second half despite clearing the bench in the fourth.

The lead never shrunk and actually grew late in the period as the Braves headed into the fourth up 62-32. A 13-0 run by Maconaquah in the fourth, largely after the Knights cleared the bench, was the finishing touch on a dominant effort from the Braves in the win.

See **SOUTHWOOD**, page B2

See **PERU**, page B2

SCOREBOARD

NBA					
EASTERN CONFERENCE					
Atlantic Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Toronto	40	15	.727	—	
Boston	38	16	.704	1½	
Philadelphia	34	21	.618	6	
Brooklyn	25	28	.472	14	
New York	17	38	.309	23	
Southeast Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Miami	35	19	.648	—	
Orlando	24	31	.436	11½	
Washington	20	33	.377	14½	
Charlotte	18	36	.333	17	
Atlanta	15	41	.268	21	
Central Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Milwaukee	46	8	.852	—	
Indiana	32	23	.582	14½	
Chicago	19	36	.345	27½	
Detroit	19	38	.333	28½	
Cleveland	14	40	.259	32	
WESTERN CONFERENCE					
Southwest Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	34	20	.630	—	
Dallas	33	22	.600	1½	
Memphis	28	26	.519	6	
San Antonio	23	31	.426	11	
New Orleans	23	32	.418	11½	
Northwest Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Denver	38	17	.691	—	
Utah	36	18	.667	1½	
Oklahoma City	33	22	.600	5	
Portland	25	31	.446	13½	
Minnesota	16	37	.302	21	
Pacific Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Lakers	41	12	.774	—	
L.A. Clippers	37	18	.673	5	
Phoenix	22	33	.400	20	
Sacramento	21	33	.389	20½	
Golden State	12	43	.218	30	
Sunday's Game					
2020 All-Star Game					
Team LeBron 157, Team Giannis 155					
Monday's Games					
No games scheduled					
Tuesday's Games					
No games scheduled					
Wednesday's Games					
No games scheduled					
Thursday's Games					
Milwaukee at Detroit, 7 p.m.					
Miami at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.					
Brooklyn at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.					
Charlotte at Chicago, 8 p.m.					
Memphis at Sacramento, 10 p.m.					
Houston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.					

COLLEGE BASKETBALL					
Men's AP Top 25 poll					
The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 16, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:					
	Record	Pts	Prv		
1. Baylor (48)	23-1	1559	1		
2. Gonzaga (14)	26-1	1518	2		
3. Kansas (1)	22-3	1434	3		
4. San Diego St.	26-0	1404	4		
5. Dayton	23-2	1294	6		
6. Duke	22-3	1285	7		
7. Maryland	21-4	1194	9		
8. Florida St.	21-4	1088	8		
9. Penn St.	20-5	1024	13		
10. Kentucky	20-5	1011	12		
11. Louisville	21-5	837	5		
12. Villanova	19-6	824	15		
13. Auburn	22-3	818	11		
14. Oregon	20-6	742	17		
15. Creighton	20-6	718	23		
16. Seton Hall	18-7	672	10		
17. West Virginia	18-7	552	14		
18. Colorado	20-6	501	16		
19. Marquette	17-7	404	18		
20. Iowa	18-8	254	21		
21. Butler	19-7	242	19		
22. Houston	20-6	237	20		
23. BYU	21-7	188	—		
24. Arizona	18-7	102	—		
25. Ohio St.	17-8	95	—		
Others receiving votes: Texas Tech 92, Michigan St. 87, Michigan 83, LSU 55, Rhode Island 39, Virginia 32, Cincinnati 14, Stephen F. Austin 14, Illinois 12, N. Iowa 9, Utah 8, Florida 6, Rutgers 6, ETSU 5, Saint Mary's (Cal) 4, Richmond 3, Tulsa 3, New Mexico St. 2, SMU 2, Arizona St. 1, Wright St. 1.					

COLLEGE BASKETBALL					
Men's AP Top 25 poll					
The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 16, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:					
	Record	Pts	Prv		
1. South Carolina (27)	24-1	747	1		
2. Baylor (2)	23-1	713	2		
3. Oregon (1)	24-2	700	3		
4. Stanford	23-3	620	8		
5. Louisville	23-3	611	9		
6. UConn	21-3	605	5		
7. Maryland	22-4	557	10		
8. UCLA	21-3	554	7		
9. Mississippi St.	22-4	516	6		
10. N.C. State	22-3	481	4		
11. Arizona	21-4	460	12		
12. DePaul	24-3	413	13		
13. Gonzaga	25-2	337	15		
14. Kentucky	19-5	320	18		
15. Oregon St.	19-6	311	11		
16. Texas A&M	20-5	307	16		
17. Florida St.	20-5	269	19		
18. Northwestern	22-3	263	14		
19. Iowa	21-5	203	17		
20. South Dakota	24-2	167	21		
21. Arizona St.	19-8	143	22		
22. Arkansas	20-5	128	23		
23. Missouri St.	21-3	122	24		
24. Indiana	20-7	87	20		
25. Princeton	19-1	52	—		
Others receiving votes: TCU 30, Florida Gulf Coast 15, LSU 6, Tennessee 5, Cent. Michigan 3, Stony Brook 3, Fresno St. 2.					

Standings through Sunday					
ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE					
Conference	W	L	Pct	All Games	
Duke	12	2	.857	22	3 .880
Louisville	12	3	.800	21	5 .808
Florida St.	11	3	.786	21	4 .804
Virginia	9	5	.643	17	7 .708
NC State	7	7	.500	16	9 .640
Syracuse	7	7	.500	14	11 .560
Clemson	7	8	.467	13	12 .520
Boston College	7	8	.467	13	13 .500
Notre Dame	6	8	.429	15	10 .600
Virginia Tech	6	8	.429	15	10 .600
Georgia Tech	6	8	.429	12	13 .480
Pittsburgh	6	9	.400	15	11 .577
Miami	5	10	.333	13	12 .520
Wake Forest	4	11	.267	11	14 .440
North Carolina	3	11	.214	10	15 .400
Sunday's Game					
Boston College 71, NC State 68					
Monday's Game					
North Carolina at Notre Dame					

NORSE

From page B1

of her game-high 20 points. Samantha Loveless gave the Vikings a lead they would not relinquish with 2:54 left. A frantic finish saw the Norse up the defensive intensity and create multiple chances on the offensive end. But turnover after turnover abruptly ended their offensive possessions. Mallory Cross would eventually extend the Viking lead to 37-34 by splitting a pair of free throws with 53 seconds left. After yet another turnover, the Norse were given life when Emma Blackburn missed the front end of her one-and-one at the line with 31 seconds left. After a timeout, Leming's look from

ON THE AIR					
BIATHLON					
2 a.m. (Thursday)					
NBCSN — IBU World Championships: Men's 20km, Antholz-Anterselva, Italy (taped)					
COLLEGE BASEBALL					
3 p.m.					
ACCN — Wright State at Louisville					
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)					
6:30 p.m.					
FS1 — Butler at Seton Hall					
7 p.m.					
BTN — Michigan at Rutgers					
CBSSN — East Carolina at Memphis					
ESPN — Syracuse at Louisville					
ESPN2 — Auburn at Georgia					
ESPN — Central Florida at Cincinnati					
8 p.m.					
ACCN — Boston College at Virginia					
8:30 p.m.					
FS1 — Providence at Georgetown					
9 p.m.					
BTN — Indiana at Minnesota					
CBSSN — Villanova at DePaul					
ESPN — Duke at North Carolina State					
ESPN2 — Kansas State at Texas Tech					
ESPNU — Tulsa at Houston					
SECN — South Carolina at Mississippi State					
10 p.m.					
PAC-12N — California at Washington State					
GOLF					
11 p.m.					
GOLF — LPGA Tour: The Honda LPGA Thailand, First Round, Pong, Thailand					

Today's Game					Dallas	59	34	19	6	74	161	151	
Pittsburgh at Florida St., 8 p.m.					Colorado	57	33	18	6	72	203	160	
Wednesday's Games					Nashville	58	29	22	7	65	189	187	
Syracuse at Louisville, 7 p.m.					Winnipeg	60	20	25	5	65	179	181	
Georgia Tech at Wake Forest, 7 p.m.					Minnesota	58	27	24	7	61	176	187	
Boston College at Virginia, 8 p.m.					Chicago	59	26	25	8	60	176	188	
Duke at NC State, 9 p.m.					Pacific Division								
Miami at Virginia Tech, 9 p.m.					GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
					Edmonton	59	32	21	6	70	190	183	
					Vancouver	59	32	22	5	69	191	180	
					Vegas	60	30	22	8	68	189	183	
					Calgary	60	30	24	6	66	174	186	
					Arizona	61	29	24	8	66	170	186	
					San Jose	58	26	28	4	56	152	189	
					Anaheim	58	24	27	7	55	151	180	
					Los Angeles	59	21	33	5	47	145	187	
					NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.								
BIG EAST CONFERENCE					Sunday's Games								
Conference All Games					Pittsburgh 5, Detroit 1								
W	L	Pct	W	L	Pct	Boston 3, N.Y. Rangers 1							
10	3	.769	18	7	.720	Edmonton 4, Carolina 3, OT							
9	4	.692	20	6	.769	Anaheim 5, Vancouver 1							
8	4	.667	19	6	.760	Nashville 2, St. Louis 1							
7	5	.583	17	7	.708	Ottawa 4, Dallas 3, OT							
7	6	.538	19	7	.731	New Jersey 4, Columbus 3, SO							
7	6	.538	14	12	.538	Buffalo 5, Toronto 2							
5	7	.417	16	9	.640	Winnipeg 3, Chicago 2							
5	7	.417	15	10	.600								
3	9	.250	14	11	.560								
1	11	.083	13	12	.520								
Sunday's Game													
Villanova 76, Temple 56													
Monday's Game													
Xavier at St. John's													
Today's Game													
Creighton at Marquette, 8:30 p.m.													
Wednesday's Games													
Butler at Seton Hall, 6:30 p.m.													
Providence at Georgetown, 8:30 p.m.													
Villanova at DePaul, 9 p.m.													
BIG TEN CONFERENCE													
Conference All Games													
W	L	Pct	W	L	Pct								
11	3	.786	21	4	.840								
10	4	.714	20	5	.800								
9	6	.600	18	8	.692								
9	6	.600	18	8	.692								
9	6	.600	17	9	.654	Today's Games							
8	6	.571	16	9	.640	Columbus at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.							
8	6	.571	15	10	.600	Toronto at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.							
7	7	.500	17	8	.680	Buffalo at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.							
7	7	.500	16	9	.640	Montreal at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.							
7	8	.467	14	12	.538	Carolina at Nashville, 8 p.m.							
6	8	.429	16	9	.640	Los Angeles at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.							
6	8	.429	12	10	.500	New Jersey at St. Louis, 8 p.m.							
2	12	.143	7	18	.280	Wednesday's Games							
1	13	.071	6	18	.250	N.Y. Rangers at Chicago, 8 p.m.							
					Arizona at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.								
					Boston at Edmonton, 8:30 p.m.								
					Florida at Anaheim, 10 p.m.								
					N.Y. Islanders at Colorado, 10 p.m.								
					Minnesota at Vancouver, 10:30 p.m.								
Sunday's Games					Thursday's Games								
Michigan 89, Indiana 65					Montreal at Washington, 7 p.m.								
Iowa 58, Minnesota 55					Philadelphia at Columbus, 7 p.m.								
Today's Games					Pittsburgh at Toronto, 7 p.m.								
Illinois at Penn St., 6:30 p.m.					San Jose at New Jersey, 7 p.m.								
Purdue at Wisconsin, 7 p.m.					Winnipeg at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.								
Northwestern at Maryland, 8 p.m.					Arizona at St. Louis, 8 p.m.								
Wednesday's Games					Tampa Bay at Vegas, 10 p.m.								
Michigan at Rutgers, 7 p.m.					Florida at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.								
Indiana at Minnesota, 9 p.m.													
Sunday's Men's Result													
MICHIGAN 89, INDIANA 65													

Roadside memorial grows in homeowner's front yard

DEAR ABBY: I need some help. A terrible car accident happened in front of my house a few months ago that resulted in the death of a husband and father. The family comes out every Sunday to place flowers at the accident site, which is my front yard. At first, I had no problem with them expressing their grief and tried to console the widow every time I saw her. The problem is, she has gradually added to the area a memorial stone, an angel statue, vases and some of her husband's belongings. My front yard is beginning to look like a graveyard – a tacky one.

Now she's asking to place a protective shelter over the site. I don't know how to respond. My husband is threatening to go and pull everything up as it is. To add to the stress of all this, another fatal accident occurred last month, resulting in the death of a 22-year-old. He was the son of one of my children's teachers. I can't imagine what she must be feeling right now, passing our home and seeing the graveyard out front. It must be heartbreaking. We live on a dangerous road, and we are petitioning for changes, but I don't want to make our front yard a spectacle. – Grieving In The Midwest

DEAR GRIEVING: You are obviously a caring person or you wouldn't have allowed this situation to have gone as far as it has. It won't be a pleasant conversation, but the time has come for you and your husband to talk with the widow together and explain that while you sympathize with her devastating loss, you prefer your yard not be used this way. You have that right. It's private property.

Suggest to her that there may be some other way to memorialize her husband, but you need the stone and other objects removed within a reasonable time frame. You may also want to check with your local officials to see what the laws are about this.

DEAR ABBY: I've been happily married for 34 years, and my wife and I are supportive of each other. She's a gourmet cook, and I'm an OK one. She takes extra care when she cooks. She wants her meals to be exceptional, and I appreciate it.

Sometimes she will cook something like an awesome enchilada casserole or pork loin. When she serves it, I like to add lots of other toppings, like sour cream and hot sauce or BBQ sauce. I don't do it with everything – just with certain dishes. I always taste the food first, but I know how I like my food, and I season it the way I like.

She wishes I would eat her food the way she prepared it. She insists that by altering the dish, I ruin her creation, which is disrespectful. I disagree. I should be allowed to enjoy my food the way I want and not be made to feel bad about it.

Why would she want me to enjoy my meal less by not fixing it up the way I enjoy? We both agreed to seriously consider what you have to say about this. – Recipe For Disaster In Texas

DEAR RECIPE: Your wife feels creative pride in the meals she prepares for you. When you alter them with "lots of" sour cream, hot sauce or BBQ sauce, she may feel that somehow her creation was a failure. Reassure her that her meals are excellent, but not everyone has the same palate. It may have something to do with the geographic region in which a person was raised, or the household in which someone grew up.

If you need certain dishes spicier in order to enjoy them, perhaps your wife should consider altering the seasonings in a portion of what she prepares to suit you. If she can't do that, she shouldn't blame you for doing it. To each his own.

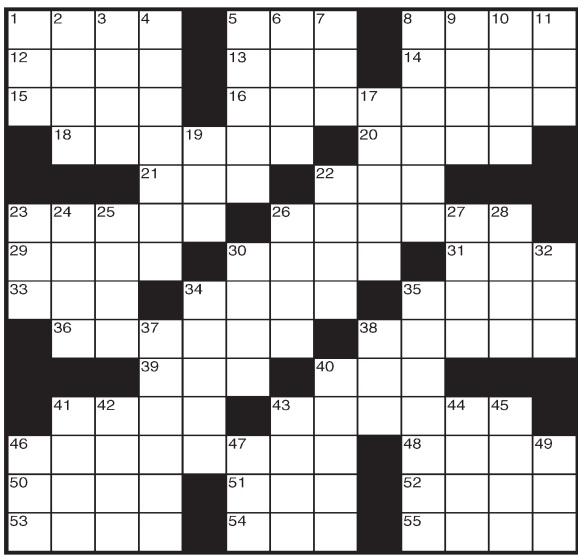
Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Capsule
 - 5 Sauna site
 - 8 Faculty mem.
 - 12 Cleveland's lake
 - 13 Mountain pass
 - 14 Greek letter
 - 15 Selleck and Jones
 - 16 Addendum
 - 18 Get cozy
 - 20 Highland miss
 - 21 Come to a conclusion
 - 22 Hose down
 - 23 Short outing
 - 26 Venice byways
 - 29 Holy terrors
 - 30 Zeus' wife
 - 31 Yale athlete
 - 33 Flower planting
 - 34 Audition goal
 - 35 Soon, to a poet
 - 36 Like ants



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Answer to Previous Puzzle



- DOWN**
- 1 — peeve
 - 2 Common metal
 - 3 Cement component
 - 4 Wanes
 - 5 Recipe direction
 - 6 Bishop of Rome
 - 7 Climber's challenge
 - 8 Fiesta decor
 - 9 Wands
 - 10 Redding or Skinner
 - 11 Office machine
 - 17 Helen, in Spanish
 - 19 "Claws" network
 - 22 Item for sale
 - 23 Crane arm
 - 24 "Mister Ed" actor
 - 25 Prom coif
 - 26 Friar's room
 - 27 Olin or Horne
 - 28 Unkempt one
 - 30 Practical joke
 - 32 Connections
 - 34 Gaucho's rope
 - 35 Fact book
 - 37 Damp
 - 38 America's Uncle
 - 40 Healed
 - 41 Big laugh (hyph.)
 - 42 Pitcher in a basin
 - 43 Chopped-down
 - 44 Taboo (hyph.)
 - 45 Even once
 - 46 Be overdue
 - 47 Colorful carp
 - 49 Dazzle

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

	6			2		8	3		
7		4			3				
8		3	5	7	9	4		2	
2				9			4	1	
	5	9		4		3	7		
4	7			3				8	
3		7	2	5	8	6		4	
			9			2		3	
	8	2		1			9		

2/17

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

6	2	1	4	3	5	8	9	7
3	5	8	7	1	9	4	6	2
9	4	7	2	8	6	1	5	3
5	6	4	3	7	1	2	8	9
1	7	9	5	2	8	3	4	6
2	8	3	9	6	4	7	1	5
8	3	6	1	5	7	9	2	4
7	9	5	8	4	2	6	3	1
4	1	2	6	9	3	5	7	8

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NIDKR

RNEUP

SRSETS

LYPELU

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“

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Saturday's

Jumbles: SAUTE THICK PILLAR HOOPLA

Answer: They ordered starters before the meal, but the kids were more interested in — THEIR APPS

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

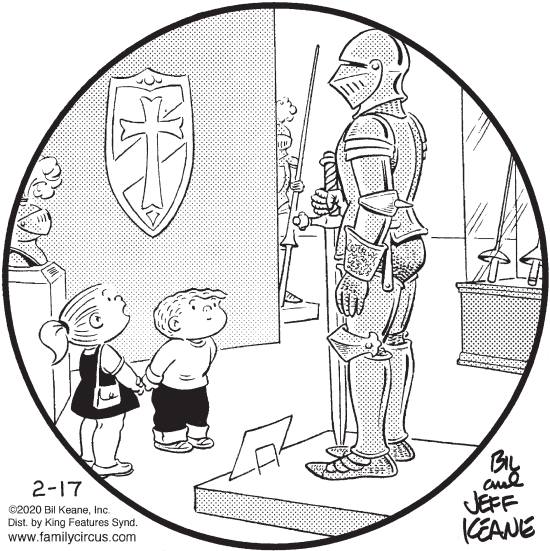
(Answers tomorrow)

Answers: SAUTE THICK PILLAR HOOPLA

Answer: They ordered starters before the meal, but the kids were more interested in — THEIR APPS

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

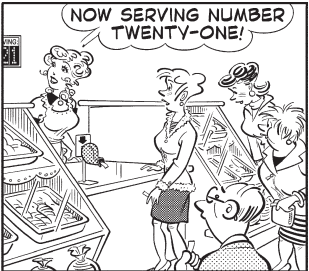


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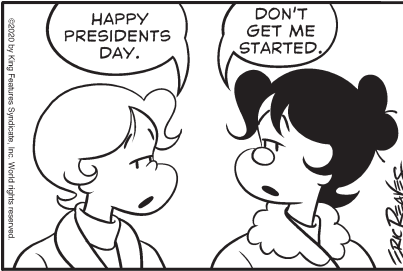
BEETLE BAILEY



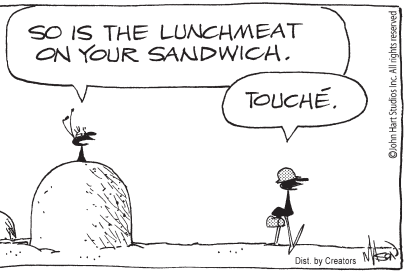
BLONDIE



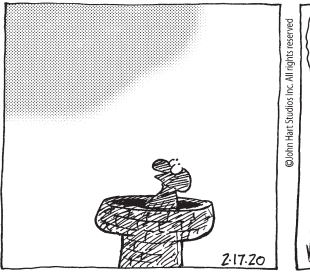
HI & LOIS



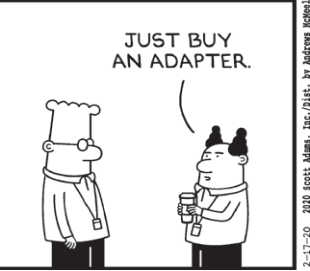
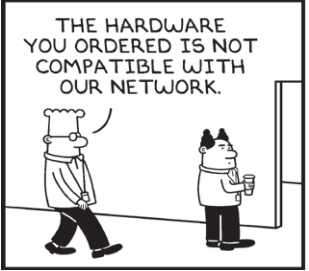
BC



WIZARD OF ID



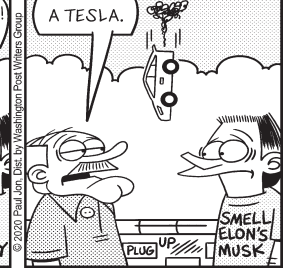
DILBERT



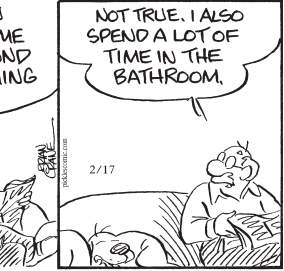
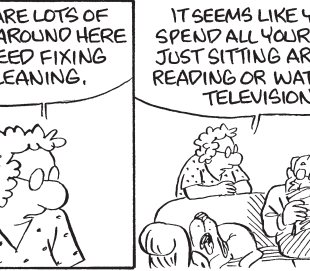
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



Patience is a virtue

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham.

Q: Patience is something that I struggle with and I find that others around me are much the same. Is impatience actually a sin, and what is the secret to learning patience? – P.V.

A: This is a high-strung, neurotic, impatient age. We hurry when there is no reason to hurry, just to be hurrying. This fast-paced age energizes hyper personalities and creates jangled nerves that affect relationships.

Thomas à Kempis said, "All men commend patience, although few be willing to practice it." John F. Newton wrote, "Be patient enough to live one day at a time as Jesus taught us, letting yesterday go, and leaving tomorrow till it arrives."

Impatience has produced a new crop of broken homes and a million or more new ulcers and set the stage for culture wars. In no area of our lives has it been more damaging than on the domestic scene.

There was a woman, a professing Christian, who, though good in many respects, was very impatient. Her pastor one day spoke to her husband about his soul, and the man replied, "My wife is a good woman, but if religion would make me as impatient as she is, I want no

part of it." The minister had a frank talk with the woman, and in tears and humility she confessed that her sin was the sin of impatience. She began to pray that the Lord would help her. She took to heart that exhibiting patience with her husband, and before her husband, would be a way to testify that God is in the business of transforming people.

The Bible says, "Let patience have its perfect work, that you may be... complete, lacking nothing" (James 1:4).

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"HU GMNJ YLCHMXA HXADHJB MCPBJA CM OJBYI IMJB, ZBYJX IMJB, OM IMJB YXO EBLMIB IMJB, GMN YJB Y ZBYOBJ." — VMPX WNHXLG YOYIA

Previous Solution: "I've always had confidence. It came because I have lots of initiative. I wanted to make something of myself." — Eddie Murphy

TODAY'S CLUE: J s y e n b e n

Woman is pressured to tell friend of husband’s flirting

DEAR ABBY: I have been friends with “Caroline” for more than 20 years. Her husband is present when they visit us because they live out of state, and when I visit her, he is there.

I have been married for 28 years, and my husband doesn’t join me when I visit Caroline.

Caroline travels worldwide for work. Her husband has family near me. One time, when he was in town and she was traveling, I invited him to meet me for dinner. He got the wrong idea and thought it was a date behind his wife’s back. She knew we were having dinner, but I never revealed to her that he made a pass at me that evening. I corrected him, explained I wasn’t trying to start a romance and emphasized I would never do that to my friend.

When I got home that night, my husband asked how dinner went, and I shared what happened. He took it personally. He felt disrespected and told me to tell Caroline. Others I have spoken to about this said don’t say anything. This happened a year or two ago.

My husband and I are now invited to the wedding of Caroline’s stepdaughter. My husband refuses to go because of what happened. He insists I should tell Caroline and explain why he isn’t coming.

I have no feelings whatsoever for her husband and would never engage in anything with him. Their marriage is already rocky. Both have had extramarital affairs, and he said he planned to divorce her last year but hasn’t. Should I tell Caroline what happened? — Covering Up

DEAR COVERING: I see nothing positive to be gained by telling Caroline at this late date. It’s ancient history. Caroline already knows that her husband has cheated in the past. I do not think it would be helpful to rock the boat.

DEAR ABBY: This is a delicate subject for me, one I’ve never been faced with before. I have been speaking to a really nice guy I met online, and after many weeks of talking, we decided to meet up. It wasn’t anyplace special or expensive; it was a lunch spot. I wore jeans and new shoes, and did my hair to look nice for him. We had a pleasant lunch, which he insisted on paying for.

Abby, in his pictures, he is very handsome. In most of them he was well-dressed and -kept. He showed up in a knit ski hat that covered nearly his whole head, and the rest of his attire was wrinkled and sloppy. It was not what I expected for our first date that we had been talking about for a long time.

I’m thinking I may be disappointed because I may have built up expectations in my head. We are talking about a second date, and I’d like to give him another chance to crisp himself up, but I would like to handle it delicately so as not to hurt his feelings. I never thought of myself as judgmental. Am I being unreasonable for wishing my new boyfriend wants to look good for me as I do for him? How do I handle this? — Second Thoughts

DEAR SECOND THOUGHTS: Here’s how. Recognize that he is not your “new boyfriend”; he is only a candidate for the “job.” Go out with him a few more times and get to know him well enough that you can have an honest conversation with him. If he doesn’t shape up, at that point, tell him what you told me. Leave out the part about blaming yourself for your feelings. They are honest, and you are entitled to them, and frankly, you might be doing him a favor to speak up.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

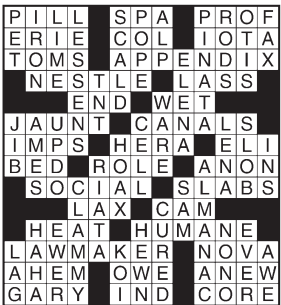
- 1 Tiny speck
- 4 Tpk.
- 8 Billiards stick
- 11 Give it
- 12 QED part
- 13 Stiff and sore
- 14 Quick lunch
- 15 Ibsen heroine
- 16 Biography
- 17 Part of SWAK
- 19 Where Ipanema is
- 21 Foundry refuse
- 22 Learn about
- 25 Vexes
- 29 Gibson of “Lethal Weapon”
- 31 Lagers
- 34 Hired vehicle
- 35 Paycheck abbr.
- 36 More than serious
- 37 Narrow inlet
- 38 Queries
- 39 Zig and —

- 40 Fabled lumberjack
- 42 Force to flee
- 44 Made a hole-in-one
- 47 Cause a blister
- 49 Poems
- 51 Tijuana tot
- 54 Kyrgyzstan range
- 56 Educational org.
- 57 Worshipped image
- 58 Jockey’s need
- 59 Sawbuck
- 60 Hasty escape
- 61 Firecracker sound
- 62 Soph. and jr.

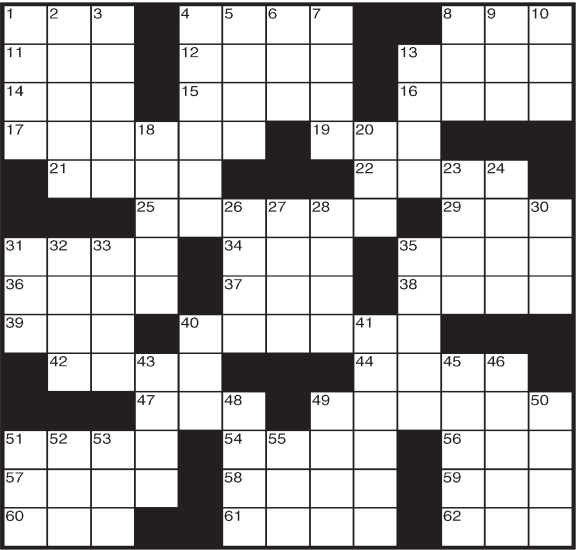
DOWN

- 1 Smidgens
- 2 Looks at impertinently
- 3 Demolish
- 4 Break a promise
- 5 Marched along
- 6 Hoop site
- 7 Rigel, e.g.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



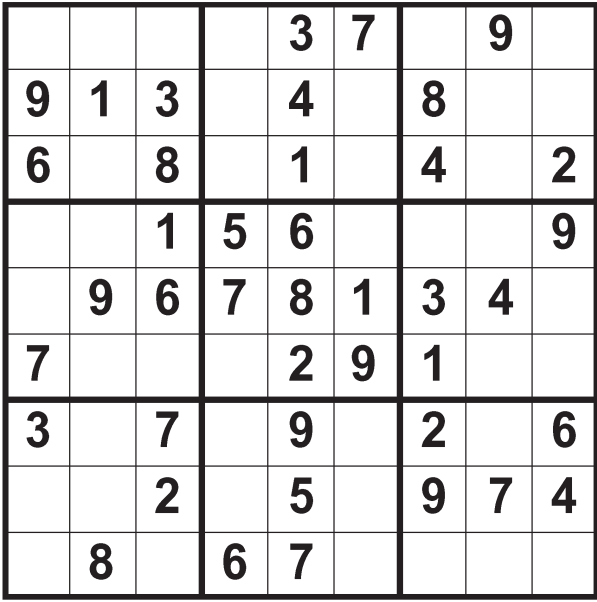
- 8 201.
- 9 Antenna type
- 10 Watch carefully
- 13 Sunblock additive
- 18 Not get renewed
- 20 April 15 org.
- 23 Jacques’ pals
- 24 Ship’s floor
- 26 Light tan color
- 27 Conceited
- 28 Online auction site
- 30 — Vegas
- 31 Wood-shaving tool
- 32 Yarn spinner
- 33 Consequently
- 35 Elaborate
- 40 Heat meas.
- 41 Exclaiming over
- 43 Mountains or river
- 45 Meaningless
- 46 Advise against
- 48 Zinger
- 49 Drizzle
- 50 Lacking
- 51 None
- 52 Mont. neighbor
- 53 — de plume
- 55 Grassy field



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆



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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

9	6	5	4	2	1	8	3	7
7	2	4	6	8	3	1	5	9
8	1	3	5	7	9	4	6	2
2	3	8	7	9	6	5	4	1
1	5	9	8	4	2	3	7	6
4	7	6	1	3	5	9	2	8
3	9	7	2	5	8	6	1	4
5	4	1	9	6	7	2	8	3
6	8	2	3	1	4	7	9	5

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MYHER

BIRNO

SCILEK

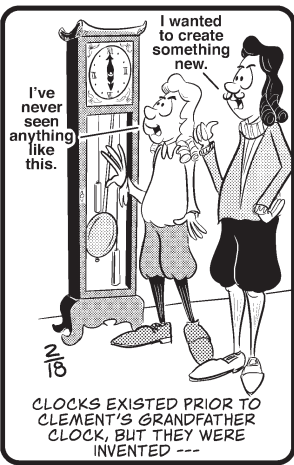
FRETOG

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



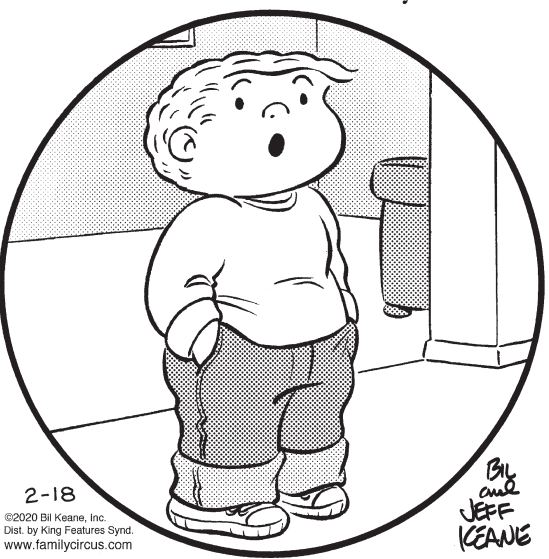
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DRINK PRUNE STRESS PULLEY Answer: The first cats to live in the White House were the — “PURR-RESIDENTS”

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

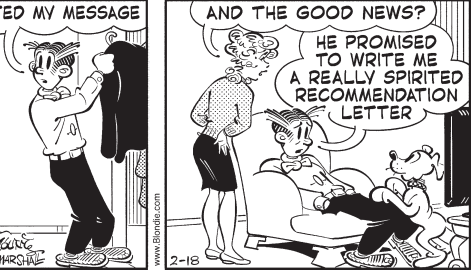
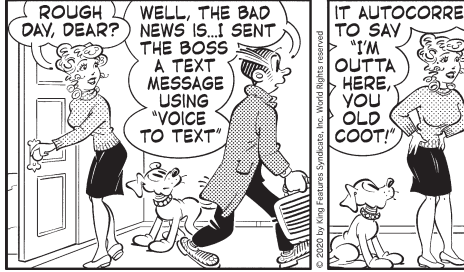


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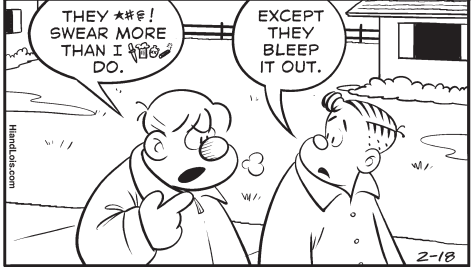
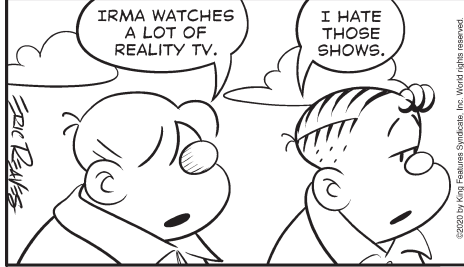
BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



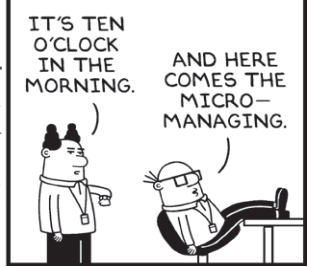
BC



WIZARD OF ID



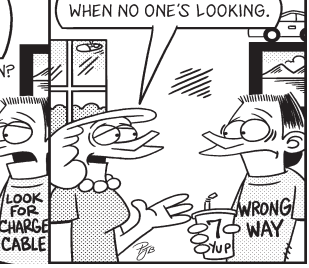
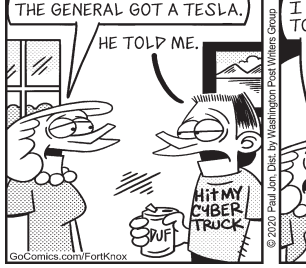
DILBERT



GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES

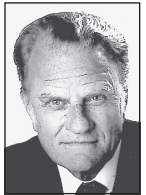


The soul must feed on the things of God

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham.

Q: What does it mean to harden the heart toward God so that he gives us up, and is there a point of no return? My friend told me the remedy is to hunger for the things of God. What does that really mean? — I.S.

A: In the physical sense, hunger’s a sign of life. Dead men need no food; they crave no water. Humans must have nourishment, or they’ll starve. The Bible teaches that the soul must feed on the things of God otherwise one’s heart can become hardened. This is what happened to Pharaoh long ago. He refused to listen to God’s Word; he was hard-hearted, stubborn. Starving the soul is one of the most dangerous processes that can take place in a person’s life.



Billy Graham My Answer

It is possible through sin to harden our hearts against God so long that we lose all desire for God. The Bible says that God’s Spirit will “not strive with man forever” (Genesis 6:3).

Scripture speaks about hardening the heart: “For the hearts of the people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed” (Acts 28:27). When people continually reject Christ as Savior, God says that He gives “them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels”

(Psalm 81:12).

If a person has the slightest bit of hunger for God and His righteousness, the soul can be receptive to the voice and message of Christ. Those who have no cravings for God, no longings for Christ, and no thirst for the things of the Spirit are not only dead in trespasses and sin but also insensitive to the Spirit’s promptings. They are like the dead and are in danger of remaining in a state of spiritual stupor that will lead eventually to eternal death. Turn to Christ and do not delay.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“EGN PGK’O MSWA OG HNK SXSE DHGR VFDA EGNH XMGVA VFDA ... EGN BSK BMSKCA. SKP EGN BSK ZA SK SCAKO GD BMSKCA.” — VSNHS PAHK

Previous Solution: “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” — John Quincy Adams

TODAY’S CLUE: A sjeibn M

Pete Buttigieg’s next test: Winning over minority voters

By **THOMAS BEAUMONT**
Associated Press

DES MOINES — So far, Pete Buttigieg has made it look easy.

The once little-known former mayor of a midsize Midwestern city vaulted over a former vice president and several U.S. senators in the Iowa caucuses and New Hampshire presidential primary. The 38-year-old’s fresh face, intellect and turn-the-page message won votes across many demographic groups in the kickoff states.

Now the promise of his candidacy is colliding with the reality of the central question about his viability: Can he win among minority voters who form the critical foundation of the party’s base?

That will be tested Saturday in Nevada, with a diverse blend of Latinos and African Americans, but especially in South Carolina, where two-thirds of the primary electorate could be black voters, the base of the Democratic Party that Buttigieg has struggled to attract.

Buttigieg’s strategy is to earn a fresh look from black and brown voters by flashing his support in the first two contests, drawing on the validation of minority leaders who have endorsed him and leveraging the personal networks of his supporters.

With the South Carolina primary rapidly approaching Feb. 29, he faces a steep climb.

“I’ve not seen any real support coming from black local officials. Pete has to make the case himself,” said state Sen. Gerald Malloy, a long-time supporter of former Vice President Joe Biden’s who has not endorsed a 2020 candidate. “He’s obviously a tireless warrior and making the calls. The question is: Will people answer?”

The former South Bend, Indiana, mayor, who has registered negligible support among black voters nationally, has been to South Carolina 10 times and has been

airing ads on black radio stations in South Carolina since last fall, as well as ads in black newspapers.

He has been airing TV ads in the state since December, and this month began a spot reflecting his call for parting with the politics of the past.

In it, Walter A. Clyburn Reed, the grandson of Rep. James Clyburn of South Carolina, the highest-ranking African American in the House, and Abe Jenkins, grandson of civil rights activist Esau Jenkins, pay tribute to their forebears but call Buttigieg “a fresh start.”

It and other ads blanketing YouTube and Facebook reinforce Buttigieg’s heavy outreach to younger black voters, especially on college campuses, such as the historically black institutions South Carolina State University and Claflin University in Orangeburg.

Reed said college students are intrigued by Buttigieg’s Douglass Plan, aimed at ending systemic racism, but especially are drawn to his call for a culture of belonging.

“That’s something that they haven’t heard from a candidate,” Reed said. “So, really, when he started to hone in on that message, college voters were very attracted to it.”

But for older black voters, both in South Carolina and Nevada, Buttigieg faces another kind of test: whether they will vote for a gay candidate.

Joan Houston, a 63-year-old African American minister and social worker in Las Vegas, said she can’t support Buttigieg because of his sexual orientation.

“I’m against homosexuality. I love everybody, but I’m against that lifestyle,” Houston said as she waited to cast her vote for Biden at an early caucus site.

As part of his effort to persuade voters like Houston, Buttigieg has turned from larger-turnout events to more intimate listening sessions that give the candidate a better sense of South Carolina

black voters and them a better sense of him, aides said.

Buttigieg has since hosted small-group meetings and has dispatched black elected officials, such as South Bend Councilwoman Sharon McBride and Waterloo, Iowa, Mayor Quentin Hart.

Buttigieg faced criticism last month for hesitating before committing to attend a Martin Luther King Jr. celebration in Columbia, South Carolina, with other 2020 candidates. He continues to face questions about the departure of South Bend’s first black police chief shortly after Buttigieg took office and about his department’s handling of the deadly shooting of an armed black man by a white officer in June.

And he recently struggled when pressed during the ABC debate in New Hampshire about the disproportionate arrests of black people for marijuana possession.

There are at least modest signs of progress, including in California, one of 14 states in the March 3 Super Tuesday primaries. Nina Smallwood, who attended a Buttigieg event in Sacramento, California, on Friday, said she thought he could win over voters of color.

“In this next debate, he’s going to have to really make a plea,” the 41-year-old Smallwood said. “Black people want to feel like our voices are heard, as well as everybody’s. I definitely think he has an opportunity.”

In Iowa and New Hampshire, Buttigieg’s coalition looked more like the electorate overall by age and education than the other top candidates’, though voters in those states reflected little racial diversity, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of the electorate.

In New Hampshire, about 1 in 10 voters were non-white. Buttigieg earned support from 14 percent of such voters, roughly comparable to support for other top contenders, except Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, backed by roughly 4 in 10 nonwhite

voters.

Buttigieg is also targeting pockets of black voters scattered widely across South Carolina, in part by tapping his campaign organizers’ personal networks of churches and pastors.

Malloy, though uncommitted, is a pastor in Hicksville, in rural central South Carolina, and welcomed Buttigieg to his church in August. In December, Buttigieg visited tiny Allendale, in southwest South Carolina, which had been visited by one other Democratic presidential candidate — former Sen. John Edwards in 2008 — in the past 50 years.

Although Biden is the favorite in South Carolina, Buttigieg could claim success by chinning himself into double-digit support among black voters, aides say.

He has the opportunity to improve his standing with a respectable showing in Nevada, where he also is touting the validation of supporters, such as fellow millennial Nevada state Rep. Sandra Jauregui, who is Latina.

Buttigieg was the first candidate to begin airing Spanish language ads in New Hampshire and began airing a new one last week in which the candidate, fluent in seven languages, speaks Spanish throughout.

His team conducts caucus training in Spanish, as 40 percent of his organizing staff speaks Spanish.

After opening his headquarters in Las Vegas, Buttigieg’s first Nevada field office opened in September in the heavily Latino neighborhood of East Las Vegas.

While Nevada could provide some energy to the campaign, South Carolina will go a long way to answering whether Buttigieg can survive as a candidate, said Malloy.

“He’s very capable, and he has the money. But the network and the money without the people with him isn’t good enough,” Malloy said. “There’s time, but I’m not sure how much.”

Professor suspended for calling police on black student

MUNCIE (AP) — A white professor at an Indiana university who called police to his classroom after a black student refused to change seats will not be teaching for the remainder of the semester, the school said in a written statement.

No formal charges or disciplinary action was immediately taken against Ball State University marketing professor Shaheen Borna and he continued to teach after the classroom incident Jan. 21, The Star Press reported, despite campus protests.

“The decision is in the best interest of Dr. Borna and the University,” the school said of his suspension in a statement Thursday.

The student from Chicago who declined to switch seats, Sultan “Mufasa” Benson, characterized the teacher’s punishment as an insufficient “slap on the wrist.” Benson has said he believes he was singled out in class because of his race, and that he feared for his safety when police were called.

“I want justice, and a temporary leave for all of the policies he broke is still just the bare minimum,” he said. “But at least it’s a step forward in the right direction.”

In a letter to the university’s student newspaper, The Daily News, about 30 of Borna’s fellow faculty members expressed support and urged those who don’t know him not to judge him based on this one act, noting Borna is known as a “by-the book” person.

They said Borna chose to handle the classroom incident based on his understanding of the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, Appendix Q: Responding to Disruption in the Academic Setting.

The code gives faculty the authority to instruct a student to temporarily

leave a classroom if they are disruptive, which the code defines as “any behavior a reasonable person would view as being likely to substantially or repeatedly interfere with the conduct of an academic setting.”

“If the student refuses to leave, University Police should be called and requested to remove the student from the academic setting,” the code reads.

Benson was given an ultimatum to move or have the police called. When two officers arrived, Benson left the classroom.

More than 100 faculty members signed a letter to the student newspaper “condemning the misuse of police in the classroom, calling out the institutional racism behind it, and telling you, our students, that we are with you.”

“Our first concern is Borna’s rapid escalation of the situation and involvement of the police to resolve a disagreement about seating,” the letter said. “No disruption or physical threat existed. The use of police to get one’s way in the classroom is institutional violence. We support our students of color as they deal with the trauma of these events and navigate its fallout.”

The NAACP was also outraged, calling Borna’s decision an example of “weaponizing the police against people of color impetuously.”

“The actions taken by Professor Shaheen Borna are yet the latest example of thoughtless behavior that yields traumatic and frequently detrimental outcomes,” the organization said in a news release. “Countless men and women throughout our nation have experienced discrimination, racial profiling, and over-policing at the hands of bigotry and intolerance.”

Gunmen kill 24 in attack near church in Burkina Faso

By **SAM MEDNICK** and **ARSENE KABORE**
Associated Press

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso — Gunmen killed 24 civilians, including a church pastor, and kidnapped three others on Sunday in Burkina Faso, an official said. It was the latest attack against a religious leader in the increasingly unstable West African nation.

The mayor of Boundou commune, Sihanri Osangola Brigadie, said the attack occurred in the town of Pansi in Yagha province. The roughly 20 attackers separated men from women close to a Protestant church. At least 18 other people were injured.

“It hurt me when I saw the people,” Brigadie said after visiting some of the victims in the hospital in Dori town, 110 miles from the attack. The gunmen looted oil and rice from shops and forced the three youth they kidnapped to help transport it on their motorbikes, he said.

Both Christians and Muslims were killed before the church was set on fire, said a government security official in Dori who spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren’t authorized to speak to the media.

Attacks have targeted religious leaders in the area in the past. Last week, also in Yagha province, a retired pastor was killed and another pastor was abducted by gunmen, according to an internal security report

for aid workers seen by The Associated Press.

Extremist violence has dramatically escalated in once-peaceful Burkina Faso.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres strongly condemned the attack and called for the perpetrators this attack and others that preceded it to be brought to justice, U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

The U.N. chief reiterated “the commitment of the United Nations to support Burkina Faso in the fight against violent extremism and the achievement of sustainable peace and development,” Dujarric said.

Analysts are concerned that attacks against civilians, including against Christians, are increasing “at an alarming rate,” said Corinne Dufka, West Africa director for Human Rights Watch. “Perpetrators use victims’ links to government or their faith to justify the killings, while others appear to be reprisal killings for killings by the government security forces,” she said.

More than 1,300 civilians were killed in targeted attacks last year in Burkina Faso, more than seven times the previous year, according to Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project, which collects and analyzes conflict information.

The insecurity has created a humanitarian crisis. More than 760,000 people are internally displaced, according to the government.

Coronavirus fears rise after Cambodia’s acceptance of cruise ship

By **SOPHENG CHEANG,** **EILEEN NG,** and **GRANT PECK**
Associated Press

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia — The feel-good story of how Cambodia allowed a cruise ship to dock after it was turned away elsewhere in Asia for fear of spreading the deadly virus that began in China has taken an unfortunate turn after a passenger released from the ship tested positive for the virus.

News over the weekend that an 83-year-old American woman who was on the ship and flew from Cambodia to Malaysia was found to be carrying the virus froze further movement of the passengers and crew of the MS Westerdam. Some are now in hotels in Cambodia’s capital, Phnom Penh, while others are still aboard the ship.

The American woman was among several hundred passengers who were flown out of Cambodia on Friday and Saturday. According to authorities in Malaysia, 143 continued their flights home from that country, while the woman and her 84-year-old husband, who was diagnosed with pneumonia, remained behind for treatment.

The virus has infected more than 71,000 people globally and killed more than 1,770, with the vast majority of the cases in China, where the outbreak began two months ago.

The dispersal around the world of passengers from the ship with possible exposure to the virus has sparked concern.

“I think now given that there is a confirmed case that is suspected to have acquired infection on board the ship, the other passengers should be asked to quarantine themselves at home and alert health author-

ities if they develop fever or respiratory symptoms within the 14 days since disembarkation,” said Professor Benjamin Cowling from the School of Public Health at Hong Kong University.

Dr. Gagandeep Kang, executive director of India’s Translational Health Science and Technology Institute, said it is unclear whether the woman’s infection would result in an outbreak in another part of the world.

“We will have to wait and see,” she said, adding that it would depend on where the woman got the infection, and at what stage of the infection she was in while in contact with other people.

The ship’s operator, Holland America Line, said in a statement Monday that Cambodian health officials were on board the ship testing the 255 guests and 747 crew who were awaiting clearance, and that guests currently staying at a Phnom Penh hotel had all been tested.

“At this time, no other guests or crew on board or at the hotel have reported any symptoms of the illness. Guests who have already returned home will be contacted by their local health department and provided further information,” it said.

The statement pointed out that the American woman who tested positive in Malaysia was not one of the 20 people on board the Westerdam who had reported to the ship’s medical center during the cruise. All of those 20 have tested negative for the virus, it said.

The rest of the passengers and crew had health checks that included filling out a written health questionnaire and having their temperatures checked, which has become standard procedure for air and

sea passengers considered at risk.

Several Westerdam passengers from the United States and elsewhere have already returned home and spoken to the media.

Two of the passengers, Joseph Schaeffer and his wife, Paulette, a retired nurse, told the Las Vegas Review-Journal from their home in Henderson, Nevada, that they felt the hue and cry over the released passengers was not totally merited.

“It doesn’t seem to me that the whole world should be jumping at this,” Joseph Schaeffer said.

“There are more deaths from the flu than there have been from this particular virus,” his wife said.

The couple said they were screened on their way home at airports in Phnom Penh and Singapore by thermal scanners that remotely monitor arriving passengers.

On arrival in Los Angeles, they said, they were among a large crowd getting screened that included fellow cruise passengers. They said they answered questions given by someone from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that included whether they felt sick, had visited mainland China or knew anyone who had contracted the virus.

Two Canadians who returned via Vancouver International Airport were asked to put on protective face masks on arrival but were not otherwise isolated, Canada’s CBC News reported.

“We were asked a few questions and filled out an immigration form, and they very nicely helped us bypass the usual lineups and let us out the door,” said Joseph Hansen, who took the cruise with his wife. “We’re feeling fine.”

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